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VOLUME LXIII NUMBER 19268 TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1996

WORLD OF SPORT
JACKON - RILEY
feud goes on
It's ALL in the WORLD OF SPORT TODAY

Search on for two suspected suicide bombers on the loose

JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

TWO Palestinians suspected of planning suicide attacks have gone underground and are trying to sneak into Israel, Palestinian security officials said yesterday.

The Palestinian Police have set up roadblocks in areas under their control to try to find the two and have passed on the warnings to Israeli intelligence, said Jihad Abu Ammar, a Palestinian security official in Hebron.

The two suspected terrorists missing from their homes were identified as Hamas activists Majed Qessiyeh, 20, and Sandi Attal, 21, Abu Ammar said. He said the two were from the village of Dhahiriya, south of Hebron, and have been missing for three days.

Family and acquaintances of the two, who fled without a word after mosque prayers on Friday, said

they did not think they were suicide bomber types and downplayed their links with Hamas. However, Dhahiriya has a history of association with Islamic militants and the bomber on the bus in Ramat Eshkol in August last year came from the town.

Dhahiriya also is not far from Fawwar refugee camp, where the two February 25 suicide bombers lived.

Overnight Sunday, the IDF arrested 11 suspected terrorists in Dhahiriya. An IDF statement said it was part of ongoing IDF operations in the territories to arrest activists suspected of belonging to and supporting hostile organizations.

Item adds:
The remand of Zohari Khalil Ita, 24, of the Jebel refugee camp, suspected of belonging to Islamic (Continued on Page 9)

IDF rejects UN claim of deliberate shelling of Kana

MARILYN HENRY, DAVID RUDGE, ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and news agencies

The IDF did not intentionally target the UN position in Kafr Kana. Chief Artillery Officer Brig-Gen. Dan Harel told the UN yesterday. He blamed the deaths of more than 100 civilians on human and technical errors in the heat of battle.

Harel flew to New York to brief UN officials on the April 18 incident, after UN military investigators tentatively concluded that the attack was intentional.

The UN report is to be submitted to the Security Council soon. It is based on the findings of the UN inquiry, which involved on-the-spot investigations, meetings with UNIFIL soldiers, and senior IDF staff, and the videotape recorded taken at the time of the shelling by a UNIFIL soldier in a post overlooking the camp, some 300 meters away.

The amateur videotape has reinforced claims that the camp was purposely targeted. It shows a series of puffs of smoke emerging from the base, indicating shells hitting.

UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel said the tape shows "the shelling is not one or two rounds that overshoot, as we've been told for the past two weeks... but that it was a targeted shelling."

Harel unequivocally denied this.

"There was shooting from near the Kana base with a mortar and Katyushas toward one of our units," he said. "We shoot back.

We didn't know at the time that the Hizbullah people were running inside or outside of the camp or from the camp. So we didn't have any initiative to fire on the camp."

Harel said that even if the IDF had seen Hizbullah terrorists seeking shelter in the camp, "we wouldn't shoot at it. This is a UN camp, and we put parameters of safety around each and every UN compound in south Lebanon when the operation was going on."

He said deliberate firing at a UN camp would have been "out of the question."

Israeli officials said Harel had brought aerial photographs and technical data, including logs of the two batteries that fired the shells, in an attempt to convince the UN that the attack was an accident. They said mistakes in calculating range and the weight of the projectiles were responsible for rounds "landing short" by about 200 meters.

The findings of the UN investigation contradict the conclusions of the IDF inquiry on several key points, especially in terms of the direction and pattern of the firing and the number of shells which hit the camp.

The IDF inquiry found that two shells, hit structures in the UN base and up to five may have fallen within the compound.

According to the UN report, however, no less than 17 shells, some of them air bursts which explode several meters from the ground, hit the UNIFIL complex.

The shelling, according to the IDF investigation, came about as a result of miscalculations, including inaccurate measurements of the UN base itself and its precise location on IDF maps of the region.

"Even if they really did not know about the civilians in the base, this does not give anybody the right to shell a UN base with non-combatants inside," Goksel said.

A UN source, who has screened the video recording, said that the film clearly shows the impacts of the shells on the camp itself.

"The most important part of this video is that it shows that the headquarters was clearly targeted and that the [IDF] claim that it was hit by just two stray shells is totally false," said the source.

"When the information from the film is collated with the craters caused by the impacts on the ground, it shows that 17 shells fell within the compound."

The video also clearly shows that an unmanned aircraft was above Kana at the time of the shelling. The IDF at first maintained that no drones had been sent up that day, because of bad weather.

On Sunday, however, Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i confirmed that a drone was operating over the region. But he said it was on a different mission and could not focus on Kana due to the bad weather. He said that once the reports of the bombardment of (Continued on Page 2)



Heads of the Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams in Taba, Uri Savir (left) and Mahmoud Abbas, share a secret during yesterday's meeting. Story, Page 2 (Reuter)

Peres: Parties supporting our guidelines welcome to join my government

MICHAEL YUDELMAN and SARAH HONG

IF Prime Minister Shimon Peres wins the election, he will invite all the parties which support Labor's policies to join his coalition.

Peres said he has no intention of losing, but if Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu is elected prime minister, he would not join his government.

Commenting on Netanyahu's reported plan to propose a national unity government if he wins, Peres quoted the Bible: "Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off." (1 Kings 20:11).

"There are things which one does only after the elections, not before them," Peres added.

Asked about the possibility of setting up a national unity government, Peres said he would accept any party which accepts his policies "and I will be very happy if the Likud joins the coalition on the basis of the Oslo agreements. But not Oslo deluxe, not Oslo minus, or a narrow interpretation of the agreements."

Netanyahu denied reports that he intends to announce that should he win, he will form a national unity government, as *Yedioth*

Aharonot reported yesterday. However, he did not rule out that "under certain circumstances such a government might be formed."

He also said that should he win, he "will consider any party which will be ready to support our platform for coalition membership. This, of course, will be done only after consultation within the Likud and with its partners, as well as with our allies in the religious sector."

Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni of Meretz came out sharply against a national unity government, calling it "a national paralysis government." She said she did not believe Meretz would take part in such a government.

"I will not be a member of the next government, but as a citizen, I object strongly to this false unity," she said. "We've already experienced this kind of government and saw how nothing moved. It's vital in a democracy to have an opposition, although I regret to say that the opposition here in the past few years did not behave like an opposition in a democratic state, but as an enemy of the government."

Netanyahu, Peres sharpen debating skills on 'Popolitika'

SARAH HONG

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres did not rule out seeking another term, and Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu promised he would put together "a very interesting government, with many surprises, including who the defense minister will be." Both contestants exuded confidence in separate interviews aired on Channel 1's *Popolitika* last night.

It was the closest the two candidates for prime minister have thus far come to a debate. They will face off directly on May 26. Until last night, Peres had boycotted all radio and TV programs on which Netanyahu was also invited to speak, and made the granting of interviews conditional on Netanyahu not being interviewed as well.

Neither candidate will be able to appear on regular TV programming as of tomorrow, when the parties' campaign broadcasts will debut.

Peres told the *Popolitika* team that he "does not guarantee this will be my last term. I am sure I will be elected. Though like [Charles] de Gaulle, I also promise not to forget to die some

day."

Netanyahu, too, was confident he would win, and said "the Likud's polls show we are significantly ahead." He said he has "half a dozen candidates for defense minister, and five of them will be surprised by my choice."

He denied that he is seeking to allay the floating voters' fear of the Likud's generals. "The generals in the Likud are excellent assets who would be the feather in any party's cap."

Both candidates insisted they are not blurring distinctions, and the differences between the sides are marked.

Peres said that "unlike the Likud, we do not regard autonomy as an end goal, but as a way station. We will negotiate with the Palestinians about the final status, but there is no need to go into details and promise things now. We will bring it all to a referendum later."

"The first thing I will do after I am elected will be to renew the peace process with the Palestinians and the Syrians. I believe that in the next four years we will (Continued on Page 2)

TA, Jerusalem police chiefs both abroad at 'sensitive time'

RAINE MARCUS

SENIOR police officers yesterday expressed surprise that the police chiefs of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are both abroad at such a sensitive time.

Candrs. Gabi Lash, of Tel Aviv, and Arye Amir, of Jerusalem, left for a conference in New York this week together with their respective mayors, Ronni Milo and Ehud Olmert.

The two major city police chiefs are abroad exactly at the

time when the security services are issuing warnings of imminent terror attacks, including those organized by Iran," said one officer.

Another police source said that "it doesn't look good that two senior police officers have traveled with two mayors who don't hide their political affiliation. The whole trip is a little sensitive."

The police chiefs are away just before the elections, when "police action is essential, especially following threats against politicians and public figures," another source said.

The police recently announced they would be on full alert for possible pre-election disturbances and terror attacks.

US Polish leader slams Warsaw for being too conciliatory to Jews

WARSAW (Reuter)—The head of the US Polish community has written to Poland's president saying Warsaw is being too conciliatory toward Jews who are seeking the return of property, the president's spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said the leader of the Polish American Congress, Edward Moskal, had sent such letters to President Aleksander Kwasniewski as well as the speakers of parliament and Cardinal Jozef Glemp, Primate of Poland's Roman Catholic church.

"It concerns that part of our foreign policy concerning so-called Jewish matters," spokesman Antoni Styrzula told a news briefing, adding that Moskal had argued "that we are too inclined to make concessions."

He declined to reveal the contents of the letter but said Kwasniewski's office would make a statement on the question of Jewish property next week and that Kwasniewski would in due course reply to Moskal.

Jewish organizations are pressing Poland for the return of property that once belonged to the country's more than three million Jews before most of them were murdered during the Holocaust.

Most such buildings and land were among assets taken over wholesale by communist authorities after the war and Poland is still working out how to compensate former owners in general.

A bill is now before parliament paving the way for some Jewish communal property such as synagogues to be restored to the tiny surviving Jewish communities in Poland.

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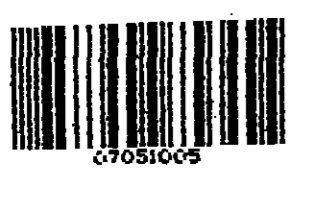
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Peres: We will not rule 160,000 Arabs in Hebron

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres told a group of some 20 hassidic rabbis and yeshiva heads who entreated him not to withdraw from Hebron that he has no intention of continuing to rule over 160,000 Arabs in Hebron.

"My decision on the date of the redeployment in Hebron will be based on security factors alone," Peres told the group yesterday.

When one rabbi requested that the redeployment be postponed for three months because the nation is split over the issue, Peres responded that he has heard the Likud has accepted the Oslo accords and, "if so, the nation is not split over the issue."

Peres said the IDF will continue to have control over the Machpela Cave, the Jewish settlement in Hebron, and the access roads to these areas.

Rabbi Simcha Haohen Kook, chief rabbi of Rehovot, said the meeting had nothing to do with politics, but was about "a very Jewish issue. We told him that our rights over Israel stem from the patriarchs and patriarchs buried in Hebron; and that by withdrawing from Hebron, we are giving up our claim to Israel."

HERB KEINON

"We did not talk about politics," Kook said. "We talked about who we are in this land."

Another participant said the emotional arguments did not seem to have an impact on Peres.

The group, which had come together just for the meeting, included seven members of Agudat Yisrael's Council of Sages, as well as leading Sephardi rabbis.

Rabbi Benzion Musafi said that the meeting's only goal was "to save the Jewish community and the holy sites in Hebron. I emphasized all the holy sites, in addition to the Machpela Cave."

Under the Oslo agreements, the tomb of Oniel Ben-Kenaz, the first of the judges, is to be handed over to the Palestinian Authority. Israel, according to the agreement, will retain security responsibility for the tombs of Ruth and Yishai, the father of King David, which are located in Tel Rumeida.

Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, Labor's liaison to the haredim, said some of the rabbis came to the meeting with fears that have no

basis.

"No decisions were made," Sneh said. "But it was important because the prime minister made it clear that there is no intention to withdraw from the Machpela Cave. The opposite is true. The cave, and the road leading to it from Jerusalem, will be under the IDF's full control, and the settlement will be guarded by a significant IDF force."

In a related matter, a Lag Ba'omer rally against redeployment is scheduled for today in Hebron, the third major rally in the city in a little more than a month. The reason for the series of rallies, said Hebron settlement spokesman David Wilder, is that "there is no better way to show popular support for Hebron."

The rallies will continue next week, when Hebron Jews expect thousands of people to come to Hebron and Kiryat Arba for the Shabbat marking what they are calling "Hebron Day," the date when Hebron came under Israeli control during the Six Day War.

Sneh: Labor frustrated by low haredi support, Page 3

Syria, Lebanon reject US proposals for cease-fire monitoring group

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon and Syria have rejected a US blueprint for a five-nation monitoring group to oversee the cease-fire that ended Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Meanwhile, thousands of people marked Martyrs Day by journeying to a mass grave in the southern village of Kana where 91 civilians killed in the Israeli shelling of a UN base on April 18 are buried.

Martyrs Day, which Lebanon celebrates on May 6, commemorates Lebanese activists slain in 1918 during a struggle against the Ottoman rule.

The crowds in Kana brandished banners that described the carnage as a "second Holocaust." They shouted slogans that labeled the Israelis as "the neo-Nazis of the Middle East."

Government officials in Beirut

said presidents Hafez Assad of Syria and Elias Hrawi of Lebanon decided against the American proposals for a cease-fire monitoring committee in summit talks over the weekend in Syria's Mediterranean port city of Latakia.

The committee was part of the understanding mediated by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher in a week of shuttle diplomacy.

The accord stipulates that a committee be formed of representatives of the US, France, Syria, Lebanon and Israel to monitor cease-fire violations on south Lebanon's border with northern Israel.

But the level of the representation, the mechanism of the committee's operations, its powers and headquarters location were left for later contacts among the

member nations through diplomatic channels.

One Lebanese official said the US State Department had proposed the committee be formed at a cabinet-minister level with headquarters in Washington and the US holding the chair.

He said Assad and Hrawi contend the US proposals bestow on the group an unwarranted political stature that could replace the current framework for the peace talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks with Israel.

They both insist that the committee be formed of competent security officers from the five nations with preferable headquarters at the Lebanese border town of Nakoura, the command base of the UN peacekeeping force in the region, the official said.

IDF clashes with Palestinians in Kalkilya

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

SOLDIERS fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse some 600 Palestinians who tried to halt bulldozers from clearing land for a fence around Kalkilya yesterday.

Palestinian reports said at least a dozen people were hospitalized. Army Radio said 18 Palestinians were hurt.

Reuters reported that, according to hospital officials, nine Palestinians were shot. They said two men were moderately wounded by live bullets and seven by rubber bullets. Those hit by rubber bullets were treated and released, the hospital officials said.

The army declared the Kalkilya region a closed military zone and barred Israelis from entering.

In a statement issued last night, the IDF Spokesman said: "During a gathering this afternoon in Kalkilya to protest land confiscation, a group of residents started stoning tractors working along the Green Line. The IDF force protecting the work dispersed the stone throwers with tear gas and rubber bullets. A number of residents were taken to Tulkarm hospital for treatment for slight injuries from tear gas inhalation and rubber bullets."

The Palestinians were protesting the confiscation of the land where a 15-kilometer fence is to be erected separating Kalkilya and other villages from Israel.

Kalkilya Mayor Marouf Zahran said the fence is being built on 1,200 dunams of Palestinian land and came as close as 20 meters to some homes.



A Palestinian runs for water after a fire broke out yesterday in a Ramallah bakery, killing three people. The blaze was caused by a gas tank explosion.

(Reuters)

Steering committee to set principles for final status talks

JON IMMANUEL

ISRAEL and the PLO, in their second day of meetings in Taba yesterday, agreed to establish a steering committee of four or five members each to discuss the basic principles of negotiations to be followed in the permanent status talks.

Chief Israeli negotiator Uri Savir, director-general of the Foreign Ministry, said the steering committee meetings, likely to begin before the formal talks, will be followed by the establishment of working groups on specific subjects — Jerusalem, settlements, refugees, security, borders, external relations and others to be defined later.

No date was set for the talks to begin.

Saab Erekat, speaking for the Palestinians at a press conference, noted the aim of the talks is to produce "a just, comprehensive peace settlement, and to continue to combat terror to pave the way for a Palestinian-Israeli future devoid of terror and violence."

The two sides expressed confidence that the goal could be achieved.

"We emphasized the importance of the struggle against terror, the need for rapprochement between the two peoples," Savir said.

"Unfortunately we have not been successful yet as there are still many out there who would still like to jeopardize our achievements and our agreements — but I have no doubt that

not too far in the future, we may even see both a substantial amelioration of the security situation and a substantial amelioration of the lives of the Palestinians. If I may say, also in the lives of the Israelis, because the hardships which each society goes through are very different, but both are actually the victims of potential terror."

Despite the conciliatory words, distrust is not far below the surface. A report that Israel had asked chief Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) to delete a reference to a UN resolution on the right of return from his opening speech Sunday night was denied by Israel, and called a disinformation put out by Palestinians.

A possible explanation for the incident is dismay among some Palestinians who questioned the reason for the absence of such a reference, especially since Savir has referred to the inadmissibility of "the right of return" to the past.

Nobody is predicting easy solutions to the vital issues. Savir emphasized that Jerusalem will remain the eternal, united capital of Israel; Abbas spoke of a Palestinian state up to the 1967 borders with Arab Jerusalem as its capital.

"We knew before coming there was a big gap between us. That's why we're negotiating," said Erekat.

Youth less willing to serve in IDF

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

INCREASINGLY fewer youths are willing to serve in the IDF and the motivation to volunteer for combat units is decreasing, according to a survey conducted by a Bar-Ilan

University professor.

Col. Elazar Stern, head of the IDF's officer school, said the army is aware of the decrease in motivation. He blamed it on the changing goals of a more affluent society, adding that "the peace process is confusing youths and causing them to think, mistakenly, that there is no need to serve in the army anymore."

According to three surveys conducted over the past decade by Dr. Ya'acov Katz, head of the education science department at Bar-Ilan, there is a continual decline in the motivation of 12th graders regarding mandatory service in the IDF.

"When it comes to the link between Zionism and service, there is a great and significant

decline," Katz said.

In 1986, he found that 93 percent of secular Israelis said they were planning on being drafted. In 1990, this dropped to 90%, and in 1995 to only 75%.

Among non-haredi religious Israelis, 94% said in 1986 they planned to serve, but this dropped to 86% in 1995, Katz said. Katz, who is religious, said the drop was less because religious youths see IDF service as a mitzva and part of the redemption of the Jewish state.

Regarding intentions to serve in combat units, 48% of secular youth and 55% of religious said in 1986 they were planning on volunteering to do so. But by 1995, these figures had dropped to 34% and 49% respectively, Katz said. Katz said he refrained from pub-

licizing his survey until now, and only did so after speaking with top IDF education officers. He claimed the IDF is aware of the phenomena, but has not addressed it.

His claims were backed by the state comptroller's report that came out last week, which said there was a dramatic drop in the willingness to serve. It found that the social climate legitimizes evading service and labels those who do give their time as "suckers."

In an Israel Radio interview, Stern said that once youths are drafted their motivation to serve remains steady.

Katz polled 900 randomly chosen 12th graders, about one-third of whom are religious, and the results have a 3% margin of error.

IDF

(Continued from Page 1) the UN shelters reached the IDF, the drone was ordered to the area.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres denied Israel had lied when it said it did not have an eye in the sky above Kana.

"No. This is a totally unfounded story," Peres said of the drone. "There was a drone in the vicinity, but not above the place. And the fact that someone with a camera on the land has taken a picture of the drone doesn't mean that the drone was overhead and could have seen anything."

"We checked and rechecked," Peres said. "The army was very careful with its story and the army admitted when it made a mistake. We made a mistake. We are terribly sorry. We regret [it]. But we insist the information that was given is correct."

Goksel said it was impossible to ascertain what the drone was doing at the time and what its capabilities were.

Harel also met with Lt.-Gen. Frank van Kappen, the military adviser to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who conduct the UN investigation.

'POPOLITIKA'

(Continued from Page 1) bring a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Yes, this will demand compromise — on the Golan too.

"But we are in a race with the Iranians and fundamentalists. It will be a disaster if they get the nuclear option before we make peace. Fundamentalism can only be dismantled by peace and improved economic conditions. This will isolate Iran."

Netanyahu maintained that "Labor is already engaged in negotiations that will lead to the division of Jerusalem. Labor is trying to conceal the fact that it has basically agreed to a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital ... Their great achievement at Taba was to get Abu Mazen not to claim all of Jerusalem, just its eastern half."

A Likud government, he said, would "first of all insist that Arafat live up to all of his undertakings, which he is not at all doing now."

"Security will be put fully back into the hands of the IDF. Under a Likud government Israel will not agree to a Palestinian state, and Jerusalem will not be

divided."

Earlier in the day, Netanyahu contended that there is no real difference of opinion between himself and MK Ariel Sharon, who said in Tiberias that "the Oslo accords are totally unacceptable to us."

Netanyahu said that the "agreements are bad, and we do not approve of them. But these bad agreements have created a set of facts on the ground, which we cannot ignore. It is as if we inherited a bankrupt company. We could not pretend that it had no debts, but would have to squarely face the unpleasant situation and make the best of a bad thing."

During Popolitika, Sharon phoned in and agreed with Netanyahu that while the Oslo accords are bad, "we will have to deal with facts accomplished and will allow the Arabs to run their own affairs within the autonomy."

Netanyahu said he would "enhance the settlements," but refused to go into details. He argued that "autonomy for the Arabs is possible in Hebron. But we will maintain a territorial Jewish continuity."

ARRIVALS

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The public is invited

Low haredi support reportedly frustrating Labor campaign heads

HEALTH Minister Ephraim Sneh, head of Labor's campaign efforts in the haredi sector, said that the support that much of the haredi public has already expressed for Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu is creating frustration among Labor leaders.

HERB KEINON

campaign staff, saying, "We will settle accounts with the haredim after the elections." According to these reports, Ben-Eliezer said, "No where is it written that we have to give budgetary preference to haredim, instead of to other sectors. There are many other sectors who have been fair with Labor and who deserve more than the haredim."

According to Sneh, "we are doing much in the way of construction and education for the haredim, to close gaps that have remained for years, and we are also speaking in a way that expresses the desire to build the bridges anew." Therefore, Sneh said, it is not surprising that there are expressions of frustration after haredim come out in support of Netanyahu.

'Labor Party may lose Arab votes over Lebanon'

THE Labor Party and Prime Minister Shimon Peres could lose tens of thousands of Israeli Arab votes because of Operation Grapes of Wrath, and especially the Kana shelling tragedy in which over 100 Lebanese civilians died.

This is the assessment of Israeli Arab politicians and some academics who took part in a seminar in Tel Aviv yesterday on the "Arab Vote in the Forthcoming Elections."

Arab candidates, notably Abdel Malik Dabamsh from the Islamic Movement, which has forged a joint list with MK Abdul Wahab Darawshe's Democratic Arab Party (DAP), and Hadash representative Dr. Ahmed Sa'ad, stressed that the Arab vote is not in Peres's pocket. They spoke in a panel debate during the seminar organized by Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center in cooperation with the Adenauer Foundation. Dr. Elie Rekhess, head of the program on Arab politics at the university, concurred with the assessment, although he stressed that the situation could easily change by election day. Around 450,000 non-Jews, representing some 12 percent of the electorate, will be eligible to vote in the Knesset elections on May 29. Voter turnout among Israeli Arabs reached just 69% - much lower than the Jewish sector - in the last elections. Prior to Operation Grapes of Wrath, it was expected that it would rise this time

DAVID RUDGE to as high as 80%, or around 360,000 votes.

Surveys carried out several months ago indicated that Peres would win 90% of the Arab ballot in the direct elections for prime minister. The polls also indicated that the Labor Party was likely to double its share of the Arab vote from 20% to 40%.

Since then, however, there have been two significant events which have thrown these calculations into disarray - the Kana tragedy and the fact that Arab-orientated parties have once again failed to field a unified list.

Instead, four lists will be competing for the votes of those Israeli Arabs who do not support any of the so-called Zionist parties. These are the joint Islamic Movement-DAP list, Hadash, Dr. Ahmed Tibi's Arab Alignment for Change, and Mohammed Zeidan's Progressive Alliance.

Rekhess said there was disenchantment among Arab voters with Labor over the fighting in Lebanon and with the Islamic Movement, because it had failed to forge a unified Arab list.

"This will undoubtedly lead once again to a split in the Arab vote."

How it will ultimately affect the vote in the direct elections and for the Labor party, however, remains to be seen," said Rekhess.

Third Way charges Clinton, Peres made deal on Syria

MEMBERS of the Third Way claimed yesterday to have evidence of an agreement between US President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Clinton, they said, agreed to postpone negotiations with Syria until after the elections, and Peres said he would provide a major breakthrough before the US elections in November.

Party No. 2 Yehuda Harel told a news conference that the party had received this information from various sources in Congress and had verified it in other places. He did not specify names.

Harel said the meaning of the agreement is that by November Peres would declare the Golan Heights to be Syrian territory and agree to pull back to the international border "10 meters from the Kinneret."

He said Labor's platform and

Peres's statements on intensive negotiations with Syria after the elections also fit in with this agreement.

From statements made by Clinton, Peres and Syrian officials, Harel said, it would seem news of such an agreement was forwarded to President Hafez Assad by Secretary of State Warren Christopher during the talks on the Lebanese problem.

Third Way leader Avigdor Kahalani noted that Peres had claimed the agreement with Hizbullah, operating with Syrian cooperation, would last "at least until the elections."

The Prime Minister's Office was unavailable for comment last night.

Kahalani presented a plan to test to what extent Damascus is intent on "true peace." Under his plan, a

Jordanian and an Egyptian division would replace the IDF forces in South Lebanon. "This would allow Israel to pull back to the international border [with Lebanon], while preserving the peace there and pulling the rug out from under the Syrians' feet."

He called on Peres to reveal his stands and promises before the election.

Kahalani promised the Third Way would submit a bill calling for a special Knesset majority and public referendum on concessions on the Golan Heights and Jerusalem, and make joining any government conditional on the renewal of large-scale development and building on the Golan Heights.

He said said the Third Way would not join any government that would decide to withdraw from the Golan Heights.

Rabin to appear in Labor's campaign ads

PRIME minister Yitzhak Rabin will appear in Labor's election campaign as of today, via newspaper ads and the party's television broadcasts.

Labor will publish ads - bearing the slogan "This peace cannot be stopped" - featuring the famous photograph of Rabin and Prime Minister Shimon Peres taken at the peace rally on November 4, the night Rabin was assassinated. Labor campaign information director Haim Ramon would not say whether Labor will use video clips showing right-wing incitement and violence when he announced the party's latest tactics yesterday, noting only that "we will make use of anything relevant and important for the public to know."

Clips featuring Rabin will appear in Labor's first television ad campaign tomorrow night, Ramon said.

One of Labor's broadcasts will depict Peres

MICHAL YUDELMAN

as a "big daddy" figure, taking care of the next generation. Peres will be shown surrounded by hundreds of youths singing "We're all with you" and hugging and kissing him.

"We will not say that everything is golden, but we will show the prevailing optimistic atmosphere among the public, as we all know it to be, whether during the day or in the traffic jams at 2 a.m. on weekends," Ramon said.

He said one of Labor's challenges is to persuade right-wing voters, who do not feel Netanyahu is suitable for prime minister, to support Peres without attacking the whole right-wing or harming its legitimacy.

For this reason, Labor's campaign does not attack Netanyahu personally, Ramon said.

Asked about the reported criticism of the "soft" campaign line, Ramon said Peres had

made certain comments, but approved the line recommended by the campaign staff. He added that every campaign move was approved by Peres.

Labor will not ignore the problem of terrorism, "but will deal with it in a realistic way, not to scare the public, as the Likud is doing to make people support it," Ramon said.

Labor will show the Iranian efforts to influence public opinion against Peres, by planning terrorist attacks in Israel, especially on election day, based on the facts provided by the intelligence and security services, he said.

Labor's surveys of the "public climate" on March 7, after the terrorist attacks, showed 40.5% of the public believed Peres would win the elections, while an equal number thought Netanyahu would triumph. On surveys taken between March 29 and April 8, 50.5% believed Peres would win, and 22.1% Netanyahu.



National Religious Party MK Shaul Yahalom (right) embraces actor/director Yehuda Barkan, who has volunteered to work for the party's campaign, at NRP headquarters yesterday. Barkan, who reportedly became religiously observant recently, will appear in the party's television commercials. (PPA)

Law allows Knesset to reject cabinet

WHAT happens if the Knesset refuses to approve the government chosen by the prime minister?

This question was one of many raised in the Knesset House Committee, which met yesterday to discuss the shape of the Knesset after the first direct election for prime minister. And like many of the other questions, it remained unanswered.

Under the new Basic Law: The

Government, a prime minister chosen by direct election has to present his cabinet, of no less than eight and no more than 18 ministers, to the Knesset within 45 days. If he cannot gain approval for the government, he must return to the polls.

Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar pointed out that the new law is inconsistent, and it is not completely clear the cabinet needs the

LIAT COLLINS

Knesset approval. Speaker Shevah Weiss called the new law "confused."

Committee chairman Elie Goldschmidt said this clause allows the Knesset in effect to vote no-confidence in the prime minister before the Knesset finishes its first meeting.

"I fear that it basically allows the Knesset to overrule the democratically chosen prime minister,"

Goldschmidt said, although he admitted it avoid a situation in which the prime minister does not enjoy the support of the majority of MKs.

Despite the problems raised by the new law, Goldschmidt said he is sure the threat of being dragged into another general election will be enough to ensure the cabinet's endorsement by MKs from different parties. He also said the smaller parties will act as a balance.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hussein won't endorse candidates

King Hussein will not take a position on the upcoming Knesset and prime ministerial elections, Israel Radio reported yesterday. Hussein said he hoped Israel would "contribute seriously and honestly" to the peace process and that "all parties will advance toward a global settlement in the region." *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Hadash won't endorse Peres

Members of the Hadash list met with Minister Yossi Beilin yesterday and told him they had not been persuaded to publicly call on Israeli Arabs to vote for Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Israel Radio reported. Beilin will meet with other Arab lists in the next few days. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Thai workers told to stop hunting

Thai Ambassador Dr. Ronarong Nuphakon issued an appeal yesterday to all Thai workers here to stop hunting. He said that hunting is illegal here and violates local customs, and that engaging in the practice gives Thais a negative image. He said any Thai caught would be punished and expelled from the country. *Itim*

Rabbinical judge attacked

Rabbi Eliahu Abarjil, chief judge of the BeerSheva Rabbinical Court, was attacked and slightly injured by two assailants yesterday as he left his Jerusalem home. The attack was apparently due to a halachic ruling, police said. At about 7 a.m., Abarjil was approached in the Baka neighborhood by the two, who sprayed him with tear gas and beat him. Abarjil tried to resist, and two worshippers at a nearby synagogue came to his aid. The attackers fled in a van. Abarjil said he thought the attack was due to a recent halachic ruling, but refused to say what it related to. *Itim*

Peres announces aid plan for North

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat announced a NIS 750 million aid package for northern border communities last night.

During a meeting at the Defense Ministry, Peres and Shohat informed Ma'alot Mayor MK Shlomo Bubhat, chairman of the confrontation line communities, of the assistance, which comes in

addition to existing budgets. Peres said the package is aimed at giving top national priority to the communities in general, and Kiryat Shmona in particular.

The specifics of the package have yet to be finalized, and Peres and Shohat will bring the itemized list to the cabinet for approval.

Under the plan, Peres said Kiryat Shmona residents would be

given a 20 percent income tax break and a 50% discount on municipal taxes (*arnona*), and a permit would be given to the Holiday Inn chain to build a hotel in the city. An industrial plant would also be set up in the town.

Shohat also said he would work on a plan to encourage the establishment of small businesses in the town. *(Itim)*



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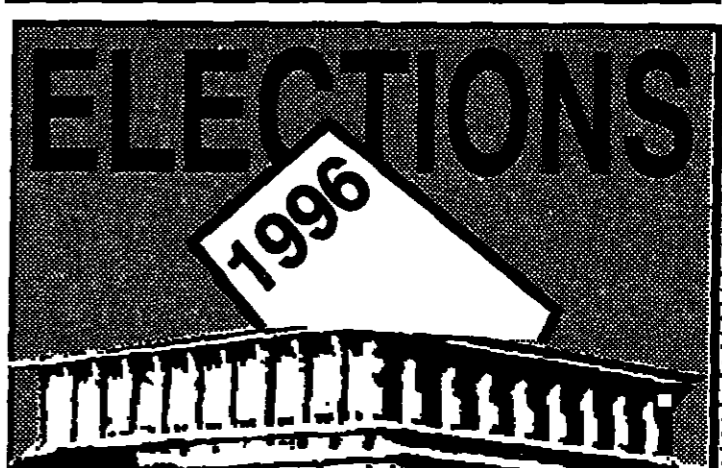
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New Spanish premier kicks off with EU warning

MADRID (Reuters) - New Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar and his government took up office yesterday with a thinly veiled threat of retaliation if other European Union states fail to wait for Spain on the road to a single currency.

Foreign Minister Abel Matutes, an experienced former member of the EU's executive European Commission, issued the warning in interviews with Spain's two main dailies and a leading radio station just hours before King Juan Carlos swore in the cabinet.

Aznar, a conservative 43-year-old former tax inspector who took over this weekend from long-serving Socialist premier Felipe Gonzalez, says his top aim is to cut spending so Spain can meet strict economic standards and join a single currency.

"At the current rate, we won't make it in time, so an extra effort will be needed...even so, it will not be easy," Matutes told his interviewers.

Asked what would happen if Spain were not ready to join a first wave into Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) when EU states are assessed in early 1998, he replied:

"It seems to me a reasonable idea to stop the clock of monetary union for a few months so that a few more of us can jump on to the bandwagon. It's even likely this will happen."

"What's more, I don't think France will want to leave out (of EMU) countries of the size of Spain and Italy, with competitive economies," he added.



A Bosnian Serb girl waits for food inside a Red Cross soup kitchen in the former Bosnian Serb-held district of Grbavica yesterday. (Reuters)

William Colby's body found

ROCK POINT, Maryland (AP) - Authorities identified a body found yesterday as that of retired spy master William E. Colby, who supervised the CIA's covert warfare campaign in Vietnam and then tried to clean up the agency in its darkest hours.

Sgt. Timothy Plummer of the Charles County Sheriff's Office confirmed the body was Colby's. The 76-year-old Colby, who served as Central Intelligence Agency director in the Nixon and Ford administrations, had been

missing since going out in his canoe more than a week ago.

Plummer said the body was found around 8 a.m. on the bank of the Wicomico River not far from Colby's vacation home in this southern Maryland town. A searcher in a boat found it.

Colby was likely alive when he fell into the water and got hypothermia and drowned, said Lt. Mark Sanders, a spokesman for the state Department of Natural Resources' police force. He added: "There is nothing

unusual about this case at all."

Colby had been missing since he told his wife, Sally Shelton-Colby, April 27 by phone that he was going canoeing. She was visiting her mother in Houston at the time.

The canoe was found April 28 overturned on a sandbar about a half km from his vacation home. The area is near where the Wicomico empties into the Potomac River.

Reporters were being kept some distance from the site yesterday morning. At one point, Ms. Shelton-Colby, could be seen taking a glimpse of the body, and appeared to nod her head up and down as she walked away. Last week, she had expressed the hope that Colby would turn up, injured and awaiting rescue.

Experts had said that natural processes, including changes in water temperature, eventually bring a body to the surface.

The search, which at one time included dogs, divers sonar equipment and dragging lines, had been scaled back in recent days.

As CIA director from 1973 to 1976, Colby was perfect for the job: colorless, soft-spoken, bespectacled, precise and thin. He fit this published description: "Mr. Colby never seems to have a hair or an emotion out of place."

Even Colby conceded in his 1978 memoir *Honorable Man:*

My Life in the CIA, being "the traditional gray man, so inconspicuous that he can never catch the waiter's eye in a restaurant."

Colby began his intelligence career during World War II, parachuting into France and Norway to fight the Nazis. Years later, he headed the CIA's Saigon office during and ran the pacification program and its Phoenix project aimed at rooting out the Viet Cong, the communist apparatus within South Vietnam.

The Viet Cong were severely weakened by Phoenix with more than 20,000 suspects killed, nearly 30,000 captured and 18,000 persuaded to defect.

Summoned to Washington to answer charges about Phoenix before a Senate committee in 1970, Colby defended the project but conceded there may have been "some illegal killing."

He was nominated to be director on May 10, 1973, by President Nixon, then struggling to extricate himself from Watergate.

After a major congressional investigation of the CIA, including allegations that it was involved in overseas assassination plots, illegal domestic spying, illegal eavesdropping and CIA experimentation with LSD, the president fired him and Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger on the same day, Nov. 2, 1975.

Gutted Paris bank struggles to return to normal

PARIS (AP) - Ravaged by a spectacular fire that gutted its world headquarters, financially foundering Credit Lyonnais struggled yesterday to return to normal.

The bank said its 2,500 branch offices opened for business as usual a day after the fire, which broke out Sunday in a trading room housing computers and quickly burned out of control.

No safes were damaged by the flames or by the hundreds of thousands of liters of water sprayed by firefighters in their 16-hour battle to control the fire, a bank spokesman said yesterday.

Firefighters didn't declare the blaze officially out until 12:30 a.m. yesterday. Fifty-two firefighters and four civilians suffered burns or smoke inhalation. The fire destroyed most of the stately marble building near the famed Place de l'Opera in the heart of Paris - another blow to the state-owned bank reeling from financial troubles.

Once France's biggest bank, Credit Lyonnais expanded too rapidly in the late 1980s and took heavy losses from ill-fated movie, industrial and real estate ventures.

The French government bailed it out last year at an estimated cost of 100 billion francs (NIS 60 billion), forcing a top-to-bottom restructuring.

"At a period when we were just starting to recover, we didn't need this," bank chairman Jean Peyrelevade told French TV.

Peyrelevade said the building, valued at about 1.5 billion francs (NIS 900 million), was insured. He said bank clients shouldn't worry and assured "normal operations" yesterday, shifting vital functions to offices in other European cities.

He said bank executives would have to decide whether to rebuild the headquarters as it was or find "another solution."

Marc Pöll, head of capital markets, said about 50 workers were handling international deals in a backup location in Paris, and that about 20 traders in London were helping out. "The situation is improving," he said.

All of the bank's computer records are safe because backups are kept in other locations, said Credit Lyonnais spokesman Nicolas Chaine. But the 2,500 employees who normally work at the headquarters stayed home yesterday as officials mopped up the mess.

Investigators were trying to determine what caused the fire. There were no indications it was set, Philippe Massoni, a police official, said an electrical short-circuit may have been to blame.

Australian leaders call for end to TV violence

CANBERRA (Reuters) - Australian politicians yesterday called for a crackdown on violent television and video games as well as tighter gun controls following last week's massacre at Port Arthur that left 35 people dead.

Prime Minister John Howard told parliament the government wanted a ban on all automatic and semi-automatic guns. In a six-month amnesty owners could surrender them, with mandatory jail for those who didn't.

But the new gun laws to be worked out with state leaders on Friday would not be the only solution, he said.

"The causes of that dreadful event lie deeper than simply the inadequacy of our gun control laws," Howard said. "They go to aspects of the kind of society we are, they go to issues concerning violence on screen and videos."

"They also...raise legitimate questions about contemporary attitudes towards the treatment of mental health problems."

A lone gunman armed with a high-powered rifle killed 35 people last week at the historic Port Arthur convict site 50 km southeast of Hobart in Tasmania.

It was Australia's worst mass murder since atrocities committed against Aborigines last century.

Queensland state Police Minister Russell Cooper, from the conservative National Party, also called for investigations of violent television.

Language barrier lands Turks in jail for silliness

DNIPROPETROVSK, Ukraine (AP) - Two Turkish businessmen were detained in Ukraine for "accosting" residents with silly signs after getting lost on the subway, newspapers reported yesterday.

The two young men, in Ukraine upon invitation by local business partners, had left their hotel to see the sights of Dnipropetrovsk in central Ukraine, when they lost their way. The visitors did not speak Ukrainian or Russian, newspapers said.

They approached passersby to ask for help, showing handwritten signs which the Turks thought indicated the name of their hotel and the nearest subway station.

They had carefully copied down the Cyrillic letters from signs outside their hotel and subway stop, but failed to understand their meaning, the report said.

One sign said "Sorry, no vacancies," the other said "Entrance."

Subway police detained the men for causing a disturbance and "accosting young women," the newspaper said. They were released two hours later, when their translators were found.

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Russian accused of spying for Britain

MOSCOW (AP) - Russia's counter-intelligence service said yesterday its agents have captured a government employee spying for the British, and that several British diplomats would be expelled in connection with the case.

The suspect had "direct access" to classified information and confessed to passing on information of "a political, defense and strategic nature," said Alexander Zdanovich, chief spokesman for the Federal Security Service.

He said the man would be charged with treason, which is punishable by death.

The Federal Security Service (FSB), which is Russia's counter-intelligence and domestic security agency, said the suspect was caught "red-handed" with unspecified espionage gear while making contact with "his headquarters."

The man confessed to being recruited by the British in the mid-1990s and revealed his contacts with British agents, the FSB said.

As a result, several "British intelligence officers who worked under the embassy cover" would be expelled from Russia, it said.

The suspect's name was not released. British officials in Moscow declined comment although the British ambassador, Sir Andrew Wood, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Monday for what Zdanovich called a "a resolute protest."

In London, the Foreign Office issued a statement saying: "We regard the kind of allegations being made as completely unjustified," and warned of retaliation for the possible expulsions of diplomats.

"If the unjustified expulsions of British Embassy officials are confirmed, an appropriate response will follow," the Foreign Office said.

The ITAR-Tass news agency said the suspect was arrested in April and was being held at Lefortovo Prison in Moscow. News reports said he was motivated by greed and was supposedly well paid by his handlers.

The case is just the latest in a long history of tit-for-tat spying accusations and expulsions.

Earlier this year, Russia kicked out a British businessman for suspected spying. Last summer, Britain asked a Russian journalist in London to leave the country because his presence "was not conducive to the public good in terms of national security."

And in 1994, Russia expelled the head of the Moscow office of MI6, the British intelligence agency. In return, Britain expelled a senior Russian diplomat.

Ken Robertson of Reading University, an academic who specializes in intelligence, said one goal of British spying in Russia is to gather information on weapons of mass destruction.



Street fighters with Charles Taylor's NPFL defend their position in Monrovia yesterday. (Reuters)

US troops open fire in Monrovia as rival forces' gunfire persists

MONROVIA (Reuters) - US marines opened fire to protect their embassy in Liberia's capital yesterday and sporadic shooting echoed around the city after the deadline for a truce promised by dominant faction leader Charles Taylor.

Mediators focused their efforts on rallying support for a West African summit on Liberia in Ghana tomorrow. Foreign ministers were due to meet in Ghana's capital Accra today.

US marines opened fire during a morning of shooting in Monrovia. "Some fire was directed at one of the marine emplacements and they did fire back," Ambassador William Milam told reporters. He said there was no sign of casualties.

US marines shot dead three Liberians on April 30 after a 10-day truce collapsed and fighting moved close to the embassy.

Sporadic shooting continued yesterday after a midday deadline set for a truce promised by Taylor, who launched the war in 1989 and whose forces have been at the center of a month-long stand-off with ethnic Krahn rivals.

Krahn fighters left their base in the main army barracks when it came under attack in heavy morning fighting, and pushed back Taylor's men from city center positions.

Taylor, a vice-chairman on the transitional ruling Council of State, announced a unilateral truce on British Broadcasting Corporation radio to coincide with the talks in Ghana.

Commanders of his National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) and its ULIMO-K allies said they were aware of the truce but would defend themselves if fired upon. "How can we observe the cease-fire when they're still shooting at us?" one commander, who gave his name as Col. Tito, said.

Taylor said the peace process was on track but he would not attend the Accra summit. He said the truce had been agreed in telephone negotiations with mediators from Nigeria and Guinea. Several cease-fires have come and gone.

Freed American slaves set up Liberia as Africa's first independent republic in 1847. The war has killed more than 150,000 people, driven over half the pre-war population of 2.5 million from their homes and wrecked the economy.

Sunday saw some of the worst fighting since battles broke out a month ago between Taylor's men and Krahn loyal to Roosevelt Johnson, whom the Americans flew out for the talks.

Sunday's fighting set the city ablaze and rubble and telegraph poles were still smoldering yesterday morning.

Troops from the West African ECOMOG peacekeeping force intervened on Sunday to drive militia fighters off the streets.

"The Krahn set the houses alight and used the smoke as cover to attack," said one man still living in the city center who asked not to be named. "They looted everything and left."

A dead body lay amid debris and empty beer cans littering Randall Street outside newly looted Stop and Shop supermarket.

Taylor's men milled around the Mamba Point diplomatic area yesterday, loading their weapons and cleaning their stolen cars.

Fighting broke out on April 6 when the ruling council and gunmen loyal to Taylor and fellow council vice-chairman Alhaji Kromah tried to arrest Johnson for murder.

The Americans, who have an amphibious battle group off Monrovia, have airlifted out more than 2,000 foreign nationals.

Thousands of Liberians are sheltering in a compound near the US embassy. Thousands more are trying to flee by sea. About 2,000 left on Sunday on a rusty, overloaded Nigerian freighter.

The Accra talks will discuss a new disarmament and election timetable and how to reinforce the ECOMOG peacekeepers.

Yeltsin: Election will be held on time

MOSCOW (AP) - Trying to quash doubts about his government's commitment to democracy, Boris Yeltsin said yesterday that next month's presidential election will be held on schedule and chided a top aide for suggesting it be postponed.

His remarks came after his security chief and confidant, Lt. Gen. Alexander Korzhakov, confirmed what many suspected Kremlin officials were thinking by recommending the June 16 vote be put off to avoid "new bloodshed."

Politicians from liberals to hard-liners denounced his comments as a self-serving tactic that showed the Kremlin fears it will lose the election to Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov.

"I trust in the wisdom of Russian voters," Yeltsin said. "That's why elections will be held at the time determined by the constitution."

The president, who has promised numerous times that the election will be held on time, said he told Korzhakov "not to meddle in politics and not to make such statements any more."

But in remarks carried by the Interfax news agency, he made it clear that he does not think Korzhakov's fears are misplaced.

"Several people, not only Korzhakov, believe that Zyuganov's victory would be the beginning of a civil war," Yeltsin emphasized.

Russian law requires the presidential election to be held this June, and there are no legal grounds to postpone it, the Central Election Commission reiterated yesterday.

In addition, any postponement would stir widespread anger among Russians and might jeopardize international political and financial support.

In Washington, for instance, presidential spokesman Mike McCurry said the Clinton administration was concerned with Korzhakov's remarks, "but also welcomes the immediate repudiation of those remarks by President Yeltsin."

One of Yeltsin's main tactics during an aggressive campaign has been to raise a "red scare" with voters, portraying the Communists as capable of inflicting fatal damage on the nation's political and market reforms.

The Communists, for their part, accuse Yeltsin of plotting to fix or scrap the election.

Korzhakov said in an interview published Sunday in *The Observer* newspaper in London that elections will inevitably lead to violence.

"A lot of influential people are in favor of postponement, and I'm in favor of it too, because we need stability," he said.

Korzhakov said Sunday night that his comments reflected his personal opinions. But they raised an immediate alarm in the tense political atmosphere.

Ultrationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy said Korzhakov's remarks show that top officials in the Russian government know they are losing.

"They will stage provocations and bloodshed. They are ready to strangle, bribe, and stage provocations in order to stay in power," he told a rally of about 1,000 people in St. Petersburg yesterday.

Burundi army blames massacre on Hutu rebels

BUJUMBURA (Reuters) - Burundi's Tutsi-dominated army changed its version yesterday about the year's worst massacre and blamed Hutu rebels for a slaughter in which humanitarian sources say 235 Hutu civilians were killed.

"Despite what we said earlier, it now seems that there was an incident at Buhoro," defense ministry spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Isidore Nibizi told Reuters.

"Following a conflict between the military and the (Hutu) rebels, the rebels continued to use the local civilian population as a shield and it was then that this event (massacre) occurred," he said.

Nibizi, speaking by telephone after U.N. monitors finally decided to visit the scene, did not confirm that soldiers killed the civilians.

Earlier yesterday he denied that any incident occurred at Buhoro on April 26. On Sunday humanitarian sources provided a detailed account of the slaughter of 235

civilians, mainly women and children, and said soldiers were responsible.

In his later comments Nibizi said he did not know how many people were killed but expected the figures would be available following the return of UN human rights monitors.

The army earlier denied any knowledge of the massacre while the senior United Nations official in Burundi kept silent on the worst reported mass killing this year.

The UN special representative in Burundi, Marc Faguy, refused to discuss the matter with journalists on Monday.

The UN monitors left for the area a day after news of the incident was published but at least six days after reports of a major massacre began circulating in Bujumbura.

"How could this have happened? You can hide one or two people but not 200 plus. There would have to be a grave somewhere," Nibizi had told foreign

reporters earlier.

Humanitarian sources said on Sunday that 136 women, 87 children and 12 men were killed by men of Burundi's army, which is overwhelmingly recruited from the Tutsi army, in apparent reprisal for a raid by Hutu rebels.

Only 11 of the victims were killed by gunshots. The rest were slain by bayonets, knives and machetes, the sources said.

Maroufa Diabira, head of the UN Centre for Human Rights in Bujumbura, told Reuters that three human rights monitors had been sent to investigate.

They left early yesterday for Mutoyi township close to Buhoro, he said.

On May 3 Diabira told reporters that "important meetings and security considerations" had prevented the human rights team from visiting the scene.

"We don't want investigation of one massacre to stop us from being able to investigate others," he said at the time.

The humanitarian sources, fearing for their own safety and that of survivors, refused to be quoted by name or organization by journalists who visited Buhoro during the weekend.

But the sources included witnesses to the attack, people who personally verified the body count and others who took testimony from witnesses.

The army is fighting a bush war against Hutus of Leonard Nyangoma's Forces for the Defense of Democracy (FDD).

Both sides slaughter civilians as a matter of course, diplomats say, but the army has never admitted committing any of the large massacres it has been accused of in the past three years of ethnic conflict.

Serb war crimes suspect: Charges based on lies

THE HAGUE (Reuters) - The defendant in the first trial at the UN war crimes tribunal for former Yugoslavia has said that the charges against him are based on false accusations. Dutch television reported yesterday.

Dutch television said it had spoken to the defendant Dusan Tadic by telephone on the eve of his trial and that he had said witnesses would clear his name, if allowed to testify from a remote studio in Bosnia. He planned to go on hunger strike if they were not allowed to testify from Bosnia, it added.

Dutch television news played a recording of a telephone conversation which it said it had held with Tadic.

"Absolute lies have been made about me. The prosecutor has accepted them blindly and not taken the time to investigate a single one of those accusations," Tadic said.

"If the tribunal grants our request to allow my witnesses to testify by satellite from Banja Luka, I know for sure that I will go free. But if our request is not granted, I will go on hunger strike."

A tribunal spokesman was not immediately able to verify that the voice was that of Tadic, but confirmed that he was able to make outgoing calls from the tribunal's detention center.

Tadic, 40, is to go on trial today on charges of killing, torturing, and raping Muslims and Croats in northwest Bosnia.

SA delays poll in Zulu region

CAPE TOWN (Reuters) - South Africa yesterday postponed local elections in volatile KwaZulu-Natal province from May 29 until not later than the end of June, cabinet minister Chris Fismar said.

He told reporters after a 5 1/2-hour cabinet meeting, which was originally scheduled to last just 90 minutes, that measures recommended by a special task force would be implemented to ensure a credible and peaceful poll in June.

"It was unanimously agreed that the election date be postponed to a date not later than the end of June so as to enable the implementation of the proposal of the presidential task group," he said.

Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, whose Inkatha Freedom Party is expected to win control of a majority of the local councils in the violence-plagued Zulu homeland province, said he went along with the decision reluctantly.

"We are just hoping that this will have a calming effect and that we are not unleashing forces which we cannot control," Buthelezi told reporters.

Paris banks to return normal

an leader to TV

EYE THE

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The UN Kana report

THERE may be something salutary in the nasty internal United Nations report on the Kana incident. It can serve as an object lesson in the dangers posed by a prolonged presence of an international peace-keeping force on Israel's borders.

The report, still officially unpublished, was obviously intended to embarrass Israel. Leaked to reporter Robert Fisk, a Beirut-based Briton known for anti-Israeli (and anti-American) virulence, it asserts that Israel lied when it said that the shelling of refugees in the UN compound was a mistake.

Israel has stated that a combination of minor errors in map charting, the absence of information about the presence of the refugees, and weather conditions which made effective air reconnaissance impossible caused the lethal 100-meter deviation in the shelling. That the firing as such was justified is beyond doubt. The UN commander himself admitted that Israeli troops had been fired on by the Hizbullah from the fringes of the UN encampment.

But the original Israeli report, issued in haste to satisfy the demand of both government and press, was mistaken in asserting that only a stray shell or two fell in the UN camp. The tragically erroneous targeting lasted longer, and the number of shells which hit the camp was larger. But to imply that Israel would deliberately kill 90 civilians under UN protection is to attribute not only savagery to the IDF, but infinite stupidity. If there was a mistake in judgment, it was in the government's assumption that massive shelling can be "surgical,"

and that errors can be avoided. As the US discovered to its embarrassment during the Gulf War, even the most advanced technology cannot prevent an occasional mistake which results in a major tragedy.

But the UN report, according to the BBC, embarrasses not only Israel. It confirms what Israeli soldiers in the field have known for a long time: that Hizbullah guerrillas were allowed to find shelter in the UN base shortly after firing on Israeli positions. The UN, then, serves not only as the protector of civilians in Lebanon, but of armed anti-Israeli militias.

Incidents in which UN peacekeepers have been threatened and shot at by Hizbullah gunmen have been known for a long time, and it is hardly surprising that the relatively helpless UN forces feel forced to give them shelter. Nor have the UNIFIL forces in southern Lebanon been of any use in preventing hostilities. If anything, they have impeded Israel's freedom of action against the Hizbullah and other hostile forces.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres is obviously aware of the UN role. Stating that the UN was partly to blame for the Kana tragedy, he asserted yesterday that "the UN allowed the Hizbullah to establish two positions near its installation, one for launching Katyusha rockets and the other for launching mortar shells."

Yet the government, intending to relinquish the Golan to achieve a peace agreement with Syria, still hopes to ensure Israel's security by stationing an international force on the heights. Perhaps the Kana experience will persuade it to reconsider its position.

Subversion in Bahrain

ESCALATING violence in Bahrain, a small and inoffensive Gulf island emirate, is a barometer not so much of domestic problems as of foreign subversion. The foreigners are no mystery - their address is Teheran. The troubles in Bahrain, culminating in the latest spate of nine bombs on Sunday, are just the latest outbreak in the fanatic war fomented by Iran's mullahs against mainstream Arab regimes, in the first place, and ultimately the rest of the world.

The regimes suffering most from Islamic terrorism are those most closely allied with the West, particularly the United States. Some, like Jordan, have been strong enough, early enough, to nip the revolutionaries in the bud. Others, like Algeria, are in a state of turmoil or, like Egypt, fighting valiantly to contain the tide. In Bahrain, 27 people have so far died in the rising violence, as hotels, restaurants, bank cash machines, and shops have been bombed.

The majority of Bahrain's population is Shi'ite and many Bahrainis are of mixed Iranian descent. This has been fertile ground for preaching the late Ayatollah Khomeini's brand of revolutionary Islam ever since he took power in

Iran. As in many Arab states, the ruling families are of minority persuasion - Sunnis, in Bahrain's case - and this provides an extra excuse for dissidents to preach revolution.

In fact, being a small and not extravagantly wealthy island with a rich historical culture, Bahrain has hardly been a hotbed of oppression. The ruling al-Khalifa family are typical traditional Arab tribal rulers - hardly democrats, but not exactly cruel despots either. While there is wealth at the top, there is little abject poverty at the bottom. Ambitious and loyal Shi'ites have done well in the city, as have a vast number of mainly Indian immigrant workers.

There is something vaguely dishonest about the demands of the Shi'ite opposition, behind which the extremists hide. These include restoration of the parliament dissolved in 1975 and job opportunities for Shi'ites. As in Algeria, the world must grow ever more suspicious of Islamic fundamentalists calling for parliaments and democracy. And the Shi'ite revolutionaries would do well to look more closely at the brave new world offered by bleak fundamentalist states - Sudan perhaps - before they destroy their little homeland.



A response to the mourners

Those who criticize the new matriculation examination system are not familiar with it. Instead of cramming at the end of the year, we have brought about intensive study throughout the year.

Critics bemoan the supposed damage to Hebrew culture from the new system, based on a total misunderstanding of the process carried out by the Education Ministry, and on confusion between defining required subject areas and evaluating students' achievement in these subjects.

Until last year, the grades listed on the matriculation certification gave equal weight to the evaluation by school teachers (the year-end grade average) and the results of the nationwide external matriculation exams. Under the current system students are given the right to waive the external exam for three out of seven required subjects, and their grade for the year from the school will be the final grade listed on their matriculation certificate. That's all. We have merely amended the system.

We now grant greater weight to the teacher's evaluation based on several years of study, and reduce the weight of short, one-time matriculation exams where every error can decide a student's fate.

THERE ARE questions as to the nature of the internal evaluation. We must monitor the grades given by the schools, and the Education Ministry is doing just that, in cooperation with the universities, thereby maintaining the educational standard. Strengthening the position of the school evaluations will undoubtedly encourage students to study subjects more seriously throughout the entire school year, rather than cramming at the

AMNON RUBINSTEIN

last minute for an exam.

The above step has been welcomed by students, teachers and principals, and has received wide support from members of the Knesset Education Committee from all parties, including support by members of the Hebrew Writers' Union who were present at the deliberations. This support is justified, because the system of non-required subjects has improved the learning atmosphere in 12th grade. Instead of students

Humanities are more than a required matriculation exam

learning superficially throughout the year and making a last-minute effort to cram before the exams, we have brought about a revolution - intensive study throughout the year until they receive their final grade, and lessening the burden and fear surrounding the exam period. This was the proper step to take, from both a pedagogic and a professional perspective.

None of this, of course, is related to the status of Hebrew culture subjects. The new matriculation examination system involves literature and Bible, English and math, and no one fears - not even those opposed to the system - that the fact that the grade in math is based more on the teacher's evaluation and less on the matriculation exam will damage the prestige of that subject. The fact that the subjects which came up in the

computerized lottery are all from the humanities points to one thing: there are no natural science subjects among all the required subjects, except for math, which was exempted from a required examination last year.

There is, indeed, a problem with the prestige of humanities subjects, a problem which exists throughout the Western world. The Education Ministry, as part of its implementation of the Shehar Committee report, has added hours of study to the subjects of Judaism and Hebrew culture, and in this school year has already invested NIS 22 million in developing new curricula, and in training and in-service workshops for teachers.

For the first time, we have turned the subject of the Bible into a subject of general culture for the purposes of the matriculation certificate, and we are encouraging teachers to vary and revise their teaching methods and subject matter. Intellectuals and writers should promote the study of literature, which did not gain much support during the period when it was trapped within the framework of the required matriculation exams, instead of attacking the ministry for attempting to force new paths.

"Man is like a bird as long as his spirit is free." The struggle here is one of the spirit and the ability to enjoy poetry and stories, not on the message as required by the matriculation exam.

Anyone who sees the status of literature as dependent only upon the existence of a required external exam, doubts the ability of literature teachers to evaluate their students' achievements throughout the course of the year.

Amnon Rubinstein is minister of education, culture and sport

Sound out Jerusalem options openly

Before the recent bloodletting at the hands of suicide bombers, the country's attention was fixed on Likud efforts to make Jerusalem a major issue in the election campaign. The opposition party accused Labor of involvement in secret talks with Palestinians about dividing the city.

Labor denied the allegations, maintaining that the meetings were limited to discussions among academics.

The subject may have receded from the headlines, but it is sure to return. Let us assume, then, that there are ongoing talks and that government officials are informed and probably involved. Much depends on the nature of these talks - to what extent are they negotiations and to what extent explorations?

In a democratic society negotiations should ideally be above board, with plenty of public debate. But it is hard to imagine how this can happen in the Jerusalem case.

A treasure in its own right and a symbol of so much we hold dear, Jerusalem stimulates our emotions more than our intellects. Instead of leaders who insist that discourse must replace sloganeering, we find in Labor and the Likud alike self-interested politicians pandering to our emotionalism and exploiting it to win votes.

But accusations that Labor seeks to redive Jerusalem, when no one, including the Palestinians, is talking about redivision, can only strengthen Peres's proclivity to do things behind the people's collective back.

IF DENIAL of the talks is true, the government is abdicating its responsibility. Academics have a crucial role to play in dialogue, but it is time for politicians to get into the act. With final status talks on Jerusalem on the horizon, all parties owe it to their constituents to have explored solutions with an interlocutor. It is all to the good if Israelis and Palestinians are meeting to sound out each other's

CHAIYA BECKERMAN

positions, though actual negotiation in advance of the elections seems highly unlikely.

THE SECRECY surrounding talks exacerbates fears over Israel losing full sovereignty over Jerusalem - but if we demand openness from leaders, we each bear personal responsibility for fostering a climate in which options can be aired, even when it comes to Jerusalem. The risks of the status quo in an unsafe Jerusalem must be balanced against the risks of change, and to assess the risks of change we must

Developing forums for citizen input on Jerusalem would be far more useful than votes or referendums

talk to the other side.

We have serious problems as a sole sovereign in Jerusalem. Most derive from the dilemmas of security versus quality of life for residents and visitors. For example, we are expected to guarantee access to religious sites - indeed, it is a basis of our claim to sovereignty.

IN THE absence of public debate on Jerusalem, the role of academics assumes great importance. It is a matter of record that Palestinian and Israeli academics have discussed the future of Jerusalem in numerous forums here and abroad, together and separately, since the beginning of the decade.

The future of Jerusalem has been even more difficult to discuss than such thorny topics as joint water resources, security guarantees, and the right of return for refugees. Palestinians who participated in early discussions

faced suspicion and censure from fellow Palestinians. The fact that talks are apparently condoned at present testifies to a laudable greater pragmatism on their part, and not only to the urgency of the subject.

Joint discussions in the past illuminated on a number of issues that will be crucial for both sides to consider in the upcoming final status talks. What borders do we consider holy in Jerusalem? How should religious sites be controlled? What are the components of sovereignty in the city - tax collection? garbage collection? having a municipal council? Are they all sacrosanct?

Academics have developed various models to respond to such questions. These, in turn, raise new questions. If functions of government were shared or duplicated, as would presumably be necessary for two states to call Jerusalem their capital, need Israel give up land? What are the security implications for different models? How do we evaluate costs that are intangible, such as national pride or sense of control, in order to balance them against tangible benefits?

To answer the last question in particular, studies and surveys about the beliefs of the average Jerusalemite (an oxymoron if ever there was one) are of great importance. What might we concede and under what circumstances? The development of forums for citizen input on Jerusalem could be far more useful than votes or referendums.

Rather than demand whether and why talks are taking place, we should be demanding why we are not offered new ideas to consider, and not merely slogans and accusations, or at best, the old Kollek borough plan. If we care about the future of Jerusalem, let each of us ask him or herself what we can do to further an atmosphere in which we can have open debate about an open city.

Chaiya Beckerman is a writer and editor living in Jerusalem.

Save public TV

MARK L. LEVINSON

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu gave a convincing talk in Ra'anana the other day, with an unconvincing afterthought.

Convincingly, Netanyahu listed two precautions for those who would strike a peace bargain, particularly with a non-democratic state as partner. First, he said, be sure the partner is benignly minded. Second, be sure of a fallback defense should the partner prove either insincere or short-lived.

For example, he said, with Egypt we have the Sinai to serve as a buffer. With Syria we would have no such defense. So it's good to be ready for the souring of any bargain, and it's bad to be left with no fallback. Fine advice not only for peacemakers but for anyone taking a risk in human dealings.

It was a surprise, then, when Netanyahu turned briefly to economics at the end of his talk. He promised to privatize the electronic media and give us a choice of at least three TV channels. A couple of days later, in a televised interview, Likud MK Ariel Sharon made a similar promise.

Certainly, on the one hand, the Likud has cause to resent the pro-government bias in news reporting. Was anyone in the audience aware, he asked, of the hostile demonstrations that dogged Prime Minister Shimon Peres in America? The demonstrations simply went unreported.

But on the other hand, that bias is not consistently pro-government. It is consistently pro-Labor. When the Likud was in office the media didn't support it, and cries went up for a second TV channel to balance the first. The Likud had expected a non-governmental station to be fairer than a governmental one.

But now that the privatized Channel 2 has brought no

Israeli commercial television does nothing to promote fairness or Zionist values

success from the left-wing slant, the Likud leader calls for more privatized channels. A most unconvincing solution.

Netanyahu's idea fails his own test. First, is the partner benignly minded? Do the capitalists who would run the stations have good intentions for us? For the answer, look again at Channel 2, our commercial channel. It has done little to serve the national interest. Instead of talk shows, we get shouting matches. Instead of salutes to real achievement, prizes for infantile game-playing. No time for religion, no time for minorities, plenty of time for mind-numbing ads. And that empty glib style has infected the channel we already had.

A station that runs on advertising doesn't want to create mature thinkers. It wants to create impulsive buyers.

And is cable better? Since it receives its funds from the viewers, it should supply what they want. With dozens of channels, it could afford to give time to the Arabs, the immigrants, the religiously minded. But it doesn't, because the profit motive is uncompromising.

Could there ever be a private TV channel that did not flatter its owners or advertisers by promoting materialism? Could there ever be one that did not, in its drive to increase investment and consumption, shrug off warnings of war and societal wrongs?

As Netanyahu insisted regarding the peace talks, there must be a fallback in case things go wrong. And to re-nationalize TV stations once they're in private hands is about as unthinkable as to take down the Palestinian flag in Ramallah.

The programs we copy or import from the US can only get worse. A new system of ratings there, ostensibly set up to limit what children can see, will free the adult programs to reach new depths of offensiveness, and as usual what in America is only for late night or cable subscribers will be prime time on Israel's airwaves.

Israelis shouldn't embrace commercial television, completely and irreversibly, at the expense of socialized television. The fairness and Zionist values that Netanyahu would have viewers expect are nowhere to be found between cereal and cellular-phone ads. Our country was not founded for monetary profit, and if our media all are run that way, it's hard to imagine who will keep the country going.

The writer is a freelancer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MISSED FUNERAL

Sir, - I live in Ramallah and work in Jerusalem as an executive director for the Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy. This center carries out hundreds of activities with Israeli individuals and institutions for the purpose of supporting the peace process.

My peaceful Christian family wanted to visit my oldest sister who lived in Haifa and was dying in Rambam Hospital for three weeks. We tried to visit her many times, but our applications were refused even though we had official documents from Rambam Hospital that she was dying. On Thursday at 10 a.m., she died and we in Ramallah asked for a death certificate from Rambam Hospital to help us obtain permits to allow us to go to Haifa to participate in the burial ceremony or at least to see our sister before burying her, since we weren't allowed to see her while dying. We brought all the documents and we went to the Israeli offices in Ramallah and met a captain Rabie who promised to help. We waited there in the open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. And at 4 he gave us five permits only, one for my

mother, three for my brothers and one for my sister. Three applications were refused; two of my brothers' wives and mine.

The permits which were given were limited to a period of time, from 4 to 7 a.m. Going from Ramallah to Haifa takes more than three hours, especially as my family wasn't given a permit for any car to be used, in addition to the expected delay at the checkpoints. Captain Rabie was told that the burial ceremony would take place at 4. So why did he give us the permits at 4? I think refusing was better than giving half of us permits at 4 which means not to be allowed to see our sister before burial.

My family left Ramallah immediately after getting the permits and arrived in Haifa at 8 p.m. They arrived late because it took them one hour in Jenin to find a taxi with a yellow plate. Finally they arrived but unfortunately my sister was already buried, so they only saw her clothes and shoes.

I think that seeing clothes and shoes is better than seeing nothing. Jerusalem. NASEEF MU'ALLEM

FRANCE'S INTERVENTION

Sir, - The Jerusalem Post published an editorial on May 5 and a cartoon on May 6 which seem to me to call for the following remarks:

1) If France intervened, as soon as April 15, in the recent Israel-Lebanon crisis, it was as a friend of both Israel and Lebanon, hoping to contribute to the settlement of the crisis and to the ending of bombardments which gravely affected populations of both countries.

2) France supports neither "officially" nor otherwise Hizbullah or any other Lebanese party or faction. It is the responsibility of the Lebanese government to determine the modalities of the distribution to the people in need of the purely humanitarian French aid.

3) My country nurtures no desire of "vengeance" toward anybody in the Middle East. We are glad that the April 26 understandings make possible a new phase in the relationship between Israel and its neighbors, in the interest of all states in the area.

JEAN-NOEL de BOUILLANE de LACOSTE
Tel Aviv Ambassador of France

UNSOLVED PROBLEM

Sir, - Well, history has repeated itself. The latest US involvement in the Middle East will most probably lead to the same conclusions: an unsolved problem. The United States playing the mediators and the moderators have succeeded again, but the current problems in Lebanon remain. The Hizbullah will still be able to act as they wish, thanks to the usual *laissez-faire* attitude of the Lebanese government.

Clinton has achieved another important political victory six months away from the US presidential elections, but will this cease-fire be effective?

ELI BITAN
Hong Kong.

AUTOMATION AT WAR

Sir, - Automation breeds complacency - not only causing air crashes (New York Times Weekly Review, April 21), but further brutalizing war. This factor may have been significant in the tragedy at Kana. Computerized weaponry minimizes human technical error, but it also minimizes the use of human judgment and sensitivity.

Israel's quest for "purity of arms" must be updated for the computer age. Otherwise, while our weapons become "smarter," our soldiers may become otherwise. Brought up on the mindless violence of home computer games, how will our kids-become-soldiers deal with

Jerusalem.

B.J. HOLLANDER

Early Elvis: Sans sequins and jumpsuits

IN TUNE
DAVID BRINN

ELVIS 56
(Hed Artzi)

LOUDER THAN WORDS
Lionel Ritchie (Helicon)

THE King is dead, long live the King! Marking 40 years since he recorded his first songs for RCA, *Elvis 56* is a riveting reminder of who started it all. As John Lennon once remarked, "Before Elvis, there was nothing." The 22 re-mixed tracks here started a musical revolution that is still going on today, and they sound better than ever with a 40-year perspective behind them.

RCA bought Presley's contract from Sun Records in late 1955. These tracks were their first attempt to rein in his rough-and-ready marriage of roots rockabilly and black R&B and mold him into a white crossover phenomenon (many radio stations wouldn't play his early records because they thought he must be a black singer).

The whitening of Presley only partially succeeded, as one listens to "My Baby Left Me," "Shake, Rattle and Roll" and "Blue Suede Shoes" will attest. He roars like a wild man through these and most of the other songs, stopping only for the brooding sexuality of "Heartbreak Hotel." RCA had nothing to worry about, as most of these times hit the top of the charts and propelled Presley into the living embodiment of rock 'n' roll.

For children of the 1970s like me, who missed out on Elvismania, this collection offers a second chance to explore the music that shaped a generation. Don't miss it.

Reshet Gimme! will broadcast a special devoted to the new disc on May 13 from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

A 10-year hiatus from recording has done little to dull Lionel Ritchie's hit-making instincts. The same elements that you either loved or hated on "Say You Say Me," "All Night Long" and "Hello" are all present and accounted for on *Louder Than Words* - gushy ballads with lots of strings that sound like airplanes taking off, and upbeat dance tunes with lots of percussion.

Ritchie sticks to his well-proven formula and churns out radio-friendly material that, almost without exception, deals with the subject of love lost, found and not quite there yet. According to his press packet, the 10 years were not easy for Ritchie - his father died, his best friend died of AIDS and his wife divorced him. Yet he still manages to come up with optimistic song titles like "Still in Love," "Lovers at First Sight" and "Paradise."

Talk about the power of positive thinking! Ritchie's employed some of R&B's top producers to update his sound for the 1990s - like Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds and David Foster - but they leave well enough alone most of the time.

Artists like Boyz II Men have more or less usurped Ritchie's niche in the marketplace, and the question is whether he can reclaim firm setting. *In Tune* bets that you'll be seeing his face and hearing his music all summer.

TOLTEC
Jon Anderson (Hed Artzi)
Jon Anderson wrote some screw



These tracks for a mainstream recording company were the first attempt to mold Presley into a white crossover act.

lyrics with Yes, but none come close to the musings he offers in *Toltec* (Hed Artzi). Luckily, the music almost makes up for it.

A concept album about an ancient people who "will help us remember who we really are and the Divine purpose of our Life ON Earth," this solo Anderson effort is actually quite lovely if you can get past the new-age Pollyannism.

Much of the music is reminiscent of the native Indian music used as background in the TV show

Northern Exposure. And Anderson's voice is in just as fine form as long ago when he was warbling about all good people.

PEOPLE OF THE SONG
LOCAL RELEASES

ONE of the better local releases this year, *That Place* (NMC), shows Nurit Galron in fine form, usefully interpreting excellent material from the cream of Israeli songwriters like Shlomo Artzi,

Aviv Geffen, Arkadi Duchin and Rami Fortis.

You may have already heard the instant radio staples "Turning the Page" by Artzi and Geffen's "Genius."

This is a good jumping-off point for the those about to attempt a painless entry into the ever-sophisticated world of Israeli pop.

COMING UP
COMMON GROUND, artists from

Ireland or of Irish extraction performing the country's traditional music, is due to be released next week.

Among the star-studded contributors to the project put together by Irish musician Donal Lunny are Bono and Adam Clayton from U2, Elvis Costello, Sinead O'Connor, Kate Bush and the Finn Brothers from Crowded House.

Break out the Irish whiskey and get ready.

Future shock cushioned by new-music series

CONCERT ROUNDUP

THE third and final concert of "Meet the 21st Century" has confirmed it as the most interesting and most conscientiously performed contemporary music series on the local scene.

In this concert alone no fewer than 19 musicians were led in all four pieces by the Hungarian conductor Joliet Nagy, who tackled the most complex, intricate and unusual compositions with an admirably relaxed virtuosity.

Spaniard Luis De Pablo's piece for baritone and two horns, trombone and harp is a setting of four Ibn Gabirol texts in Hebrew. Guest baritone Dietrich Henschel seemed to have some serious problems with the direction, which also seemed to distract him from the music itself, however weak.

In his vocal line De Pablo is influenced by Jewish cantillation, both Ashkenazi and Sephardi, embracing a very florid, melismatic style adorned with a great number of embell-

ishments. The instruments move in a completely independent way. This combination, however, proves to be rather barren.

Next came Hosokawa's *Landscape VI*, which at first was reminiscent of Ligeti's *Atmospheres*, a study in sound. Then Hosokawa's uniqueness became evident - while Ligeti's blocks of sound are completely static, Hosokawa's bustle with activity. The quality of the sound was also special.

Landscapes VI could have been written only by a Japanese composer because it is a blending of traditional Japanese and 20th-century sounds.

But the piece also demonstrates one of the most important Japanese mental qualities - emotional restraint and a meditative, completely relaxed state of mind.

With Ron Weidberg's *Election Campaign Speech for the Presidency of the US Chinamerica*, which is a setting of David Avidan's text of the

same title, we were rather cruelly transferred from Hosokawa's tranquillity into the hectic, brutal yet brilliant idiom of Avidan-Weidberg.

Dietrich Henschel, now singing in English (the translation is by Avidan himself) seemed happily immersed in the recitative-operatic-like style, delivering the speech with immense energy and enthusiasm.

The concert ended, appropriately, with Schoenberg's *Serenade* op. 24, one of the composer's first and strictly formulated 12-tone pieces. Schoenberg may have revolutionized music, but his 12-tone works remain as inaccessible as they were 70 years ago.

Tel Aviv Museum, May 4
Benjamin Bar-Am

THE optimistic message highlighted in American-Jewish composer David Loden's operamusical *David and Bathsheba*,

premiered by the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba under Menahem Nebenhaus's baton, is this:

"Adultery is not only pardonable but encouraged and deserving of divine forgiveness and even apothecary blessing, if only one goes through the required motions of repentance - provided, of course, one is king, to whom standards of morals and justice are applied that are different from those common, law-not-abiding citizens."

All the ingredients supposedly ensuring success with a non-Orthodox American Jewish audience were professionally utilized: stereotype Near-Eastern melodic, rhythmic and dance patterns for exotic effect, embellished by appropriate picture-book costumes; a Carl-Loewe-style ballad for relating the poor man's lamb story; pathetic royal outcries; sentimental arias and duos; a com-

monplace, passé, easily digestible Romantic music style; and polished routine singers - tenor Chris Holloway, bass-baritone Stan Blair, and mezzo-soprano Donna Stephenson.

No good opportunity for piquancy was wasted. Bathsheba was more feminist than feminine, aggressively insisting on her rightful share in the sinful couple's guilt, demonstrating convincingly who is wearing the spiritual pants in the royal household, making it hard to understand why the misguided David should have felt attracted to her domineering charms.

An obviously liberal rabbi, introducing his aspiring barmitzva disciple to the facts of biblical life, contributed the educational moral of the story. Nathan was a stern but humanly compassionate prophet.

What it all amounts to is a latter-day realization of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* motto: "The things that you're li'ble to read in the Bible - it

ain't necessarily so".
Jerusalem Theater, April 30
Ury Eppstein

THE first ISO performance of Bruckner's *Symphony No. 5*, in Subscription Concert No. 8, conducted by Uri Segal, was a noteworthy musical event. The work's enormous and constantly changing mass of sound were not only produced magnificently but also with splendid instrumental balance and significant highlighting of contrasting sonorities and dynamics.

The majestic ambience of the weightier movements was created with force of conviction as were also, in contradiction, the characteristically Austrian take-it-easiness and the powerful energies of the Scherzo.

Cellist Françoise Groben from Luxembourg rendered Boccherini's Cello Concerto in D major with elegance and an easy flow.
Jerusalem Theater, May 1
Ury Eppstein

Bravo to Belgian choreographer

DANCE REVIEW
DORA SOWDEN

IN the first moments (at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center Opera House, May 1), on the edge of the dark stage, when a woman in flimsy white stood with her back to the audience, and a man (in an ordinary suit) came out to cut the elastic bands that held her in place, Belgian choreographer Wim Vandekeybus established his arresting powers.

Yet what followed in the *Exhaustion from Dreamt Love*, when the Batsheva dancers began to flit through a curtain of golden strings (behind which some seemed to be levitating) was little less than horrific.

They skittered like giant ants here and there, and froze like cockroaches - before making a dash for safety, tumbled over one another like flies seeking escape on a window. All credit then to the Batsheva

program *Adam-Ma* gave a display at the Habama Theatre in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem (April 30).

Their methods were an amalgam of dance movement with a mix of jujitsu and contact moves. Their performance suggested that this would be more suitable for studios and seminars than for a theater.

Golem at the Yaron Yerushalmi Theater at the Suzanne Dallal complex in Tel Aviv (May 2) had nothing to do with the ancient Jewish legend. It was a show performed by a lively couple - part dance, part acting, part speech, with the "choreography" attributed to Yael Kromsky.

The staging was ingeniously adequate! A door frame served as an entrance for the women, a block entrance as a window. The two became a bed when fitted together and turned over.

THREE handsome young women, in judo-style costumes, calling their

people reluctant to help this concert proceed," he said.

Ad-EI says he wants to "reconstruct the trust and maintain a good relationship" between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples at this critical juncture in their relationship, and this was "a musical, not in any way a political act."

The duo's other concerns of Bach sonatas are to go ahead as planned at the Jerusalem Music Center in Mishkenot Sha'ananim on Thursday (at 8:30 p.m.) and on Friday (12 noon, which will be broadcast live on the radio on Voice of Music); on Friday evening at St. Luke's Church in Haifa (9:30); and on Saturday at 9 at the Enav Center in Tel Aviv. (Tickets from agencies or the venues themselves.)

Don't bother turning the 'Corner'

THEATER REVIEW
NAOMI DOUDAI

THEATERS that resort to cashing in on successful competition are taking corners in a manner that is not only tricky but downright dangerous.

Such is the case with the second Priestley revival this season. After the 1945 smash hit *The Inspector Calls* proved gripping at Habimah this January, *Dangerous Corner*, now playing at Hasifriya, comes as an anti-climax.

Corner, while driven by the same dramatic mechanism as *The*

Inspector, an oldtime whodunit, lacks the neatly built suspense, and socio-psycho-moral underpinnings of the latter.

Its treatment of the story of a house-party in the English countryside is over-simplistic for contemporary consumption. With today's sophisticated scenarios, the offstage suicide-cum-murder is dependent on a structure of surprises that in 1996 no longer surprise.

This kind of melodrama is hopelessly outdated and at times even risible.

Irit Elath's lively Freda excepted, the cast, largely obsessed with director's fill-in of stage business, failed to flesh out what are largely one-dimensional parts.

Priestley once said that he personally would not travel 100

yards to see this, his first play, again. The trip to see *Dangerous Corner* at Ramat Gan's Hasifriya, more often than not a sure spot for good theater, was me no more rewarding than predicted by its author.

Historic Bethlehem concert is cancelled

TOM GROSS

TONIGHT'S concert in Bethlehem - which was due to have been the first performance by an Israeli classical musician at a venue in a Palestinian autonomous area - has been canceled at the last minute.

Twenty-eight-year-old Israeli harpsichordist Shalev Ad-EI was to have accompanied leading English viola da gamba player Richard Boothby in a program of Bach's complex gamba and harpsichord sonatas at the Church of the Nativity.

"We are playing a series of Baroque concerts in Jerusalem, Haifa and Tel Aviv later this week, but because of the ongoing closure of the territories, several music enthusiasts from Bethlehem who

attended concerts I performed in last year at the Israel festival and at the Liturgica festival were not able to come," said Ad-EI.

"So, at their request, we decided to add an extra concert and go and perform there. If Mohammed can't come to the mountain, the mountain would come to Mohammed, so to speak."

But tonight's performance was canceled yesterday, following the withdrawal of insurance for the harpsichord, and the subsequent refusal by its owner to loan it out. There was also a lack of cooperation by some other people involved on the Israeli side, according to Ad-EI.

"It seems there were too many

people reluctant to help this concert proceed," he said.

Ad-EI says he wants to "reconstruct the trust and maintain a good relationship" between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples at this critical juncture in their relationship, and this was "a musical, not in any way a political act."

The duo's other concerns of Bach sonatas are to go ahead as planned at the Jerusalem Music Center in Mishkenot Sha'ananim on Thursday (at 8:30 p.m.) and on Friday (12 noon, which will be broadcast live on the radio on Voice of Music); on Friday evening at St. Luke's Church in Haifa (9:30); and on Saturday at 9 at the Enav Center in Tel Aviv. (Tickets from agencies or the venues themselves.)

Guitar: Four hands, one soul

HELEN KAYE

THE guitar is an easy instrument to learn and a very difficult instrument to play well, but virtuosos Brazilian guitarists Sergio and Odair Assad didn't really have much of a choice.

"I was always interested in music," explains Sergio in a phone interview from his Brussels home, "but there was no money for a piano. We did have a guitar at home, so I started with that. Odair got jealous, so my father got another guitar and we've been together ever since."

Critics have praised the instrumental and emotional accord between them and Sergio admits that "the contact between us is almost telepathic."

"We always study a new piece apart, but when we come together, we find we play it in the same way."

Billed as the Assad Brothers, they first played here at the 1987 International Guitar Festival and this year they're coming back to play a single concert at the Israel Festival on June 9.

As well as guitar classics the program includes the brothers' own transcriptions of harpsichord works by Rameau, Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and two songs by Brazilian composer Egberto Gismonti, which he wrote for them. Other Brazilian composers have also written pieces for the Assads, whose style draws its inspiration from Brazilian folk music.

The Assads' contribution to the Brazilian guitar repertoire started with their first visit to Paris in 1979. There, as in Brazil, they played solely classical music on stage "and Brazilian folk music for our friends, like the Brazilian jazz that's called 'choros.' They said 'Hey, this is great,' so we started playing it in concerts and people loved it."

Their name is Syrian and "we think that our grandfather came to Sao Paulo from Syria in the 1920s, but he never really said 'for Syria.' Born in 1952, Sergio was 12 when he started to play and Odair was eight. The boys' first teacher was their father, who played the mandolin. They learned so fast that "we played too well for the teachers in Sao Paulo so father decided to move to Rio."

Rio de Janeiro held Monina Tavora, a disciple of the mighty Andres Segovia. She heard the Assads play "and then taught us for 10 years for free. We met Segovia once after we'd played at the Segovia guitar competition in 1983. He told us that he was happy with Tavora's work with us. He was very old and very charismatic."

The Assads' professional debut was in 1969 when they visited the US as part of the Youth for Understanding program. Since then they've played all over the world, and have produced acclaimed recordings for the Nonesuch label.

The brothers - "we are as close as twins" - live near each other in Brussels because Odair's wife is Belgian. Sergio is a recent widower who moved to Brussels after the death of his wife. They each have three children and "both our eldest daughters are very musical," says Sergio, sounding a little surprised at this.

2 ONE-DAY TRIPS

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<p>Friday May 17</p>	<p>EIN KEREM Led by renowned tour guide and Ein Kerem resident, Weather Zanger. The tranquility and exciting peacefulness of the village remind many of old Provence. Ein Kerem, which is the birthplace of John the Baptist, has many churches. We will visit the famous Church of the Visitation, St. John's Church, and - the most peaceful place in Jerusalem - the Convent of the Sisters of Zion. The tour, which starts from the Spring of Miriam at 9:15 a.m., lasts until 1:00 p.m. NIS85.</p>
<p>Sunday June 9</p>	<p>ANCIENT SYNAGOGUES OF GALILEE After Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 CE, Jewish leaders fled to Eretz Yehuda and, after the Bar Kochba rebellion, to Galilee, where Jewish life began to flourish again. The tour leaves from Jerusalem, and picks up in Tel Aviv. Then we visit the Arbel, Tiberias, Kfar Nahum, and Peki'in. The tour guide is Yoni Shapiro, and the cost, which includes entrance to all sites, a full lunch, and transportation in air-conditioned coaches, is NIS170.</p>

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TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15				
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEKS ON CHARTS	ARTIST	TITLE	
#1	NEW	1 GRANBERRIES	TO THE FAITHFUL COMPILATION	
#2	1	7 RITA	TWO	
#3	3	8 SHLOMO ARTZI	BEST OF DREAM MUSIC	
#4	2	8 DREAMLAND	BACK TO THE SHELL	
#5	4	2 ROCKFOLIA	SHINE ON, VOL. 2	
#6	11	4 VARIOUS ARTISTS	MORNING GLORY	
#7	5	17 OASIS	DANNY LITANI	
#8	10	8 DANNY LITANI	THE GRAND LOVE	
#9	15	5 RITA	NEARLY GOOD	
#10	NEW	1 TIMCKY	PORTRAITS	
#11	20	2 VANGELIS	SONGS IN THE KEY OF X	
#12	6	5 TV SOUND TRACK	GREATEST HITS	
#13	8	7 TAKE THAT	THE CHILD IN YOU	
#14	12	19 YEHUDA POLISER	JAGGED LITTLE PILL	
#15	16	8 ALANIS MORISSETTE		

Tower Records' top-selling albums for the previous week. RE - re-entry

Motorola denies plans for new plant

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

FOLLOWING local reports that Motorola had frozen plans to build a new semiconductor plant in Israel, the company yesterday denied ever having such plans for a new factory here.

An article in yesterday's *Ha'aretz* reported that the wireless communications company's proposal to build a new, \$1.5 billion semiconductor plant in Israel had been halted due to expected changes in the capital-investment aid law.

Motorola Israel refused to comment on the report, but the manager of media relations for Motorola, Inc.'s semiconductor division said the company never had designs to build a second semiconductor facility here.

"Motorola has never had a plan

to build a semiconductor plant in Israel," Jeff Gorin said, "and I would be in a position to publicize such a plan if in fact there was one."

Motorola Israel has seven subsidiary companies operating in Israel, including Motorola Semiconductor Israel - which provides design capability for the Semiconductor Products Sector of Motorola Inc.

In addition to semiconductors, Motorola Israel is active in the design and production of military and data communications systems.

The company also designs and produces electronic components and provides mobile telephone service to more than 150,000 subscribers.

'Exchange-rate regime working efficiently'

Dollar surges 1.5% to NIS 3.26

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE Bank of Israel said yesterday it is determined to uphold its foreign exchange regime, which it said was functioning "efficiently" during recent market fluctuations.

The shekel depreciated yesterday against the dollar by 1.46 percent, plummeting to 3.262 from 3.21 to the dollar amid brisk foreign-exchange trading, as the public increased its demand for foreign currency. Over the past six weeks, the shekel has lost some 5% of its dollar value.

Though the devaluation was accelerated by the dollar's recent appreciation in world markets, the shekel lost altitude yesterday against all major currencies - with the Deutschmark gaining 1.65%, the sterling 1.81%, the yen 0.9% and the French franc appreciating 1.7% against the shekel.

The Bank of Israel's basket of leading currencies climbed an

additional 1.52% yesterday and settled at 3.644 to the shekel.

The basket is the basis for the central bank's so-called "diagonal" exchange regime, a theoretical line carved out of a weighted balance among five currencies which is designed to climb annually by 6% against the shekel. The central bank allows the markets to devalue or appreciate the shekel by a maximum of 7% under and above this diagonal line.

Monetary sources said they were confident there would be no need to change this system, since the shekel, though now only 2.5% away from the so-called middle rate - a narrowing of 1.39 percentage points from the end of the previous trading day - is still well under the diagonal.

As for the market's behavior,

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said he saw in it a reflection of widespread assessments that the new government, whether led by Labor or Likud, will set out to trim the budget.

Monetary sources stressed, however, that should the new government not stand up to current expectations for a serious budget cut, market trends would be reversed and the shekel would once again appreciate.

The Bank of Israel did not intervene in yesterday's trading, according to spokesman Ohad Bar-Efaat, in line with its policy over the past few months.

Previously, when the shekel's rate hovered around what the central bank saw as an overvalued level of three to the dollar, it joined in the trading - by buying dollars - to weaken an excessively import-friendly shekel.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

'Scitex shares overvalued in short term': Scitex shares now appear overvalued on a near-term fundamental basis, but there is still value in them for long-term stock holders, according to Lehman Brothers' analyst department's report on the company.

Lehman said Scitex, which is being threatened by a hostile takeover by Israeli-American entrepreneur David Gilo, is currently undergoing a recovery program. The report concludes that "we assign low probability that Gilo's current offer for Scitex will be successful and believe there is still value for long-term holders in excess of current proposal - whether it comes in the form of a higher offer from Gilo or steps taken by Scitex itself."

Galit Lipkis Beck

The Communications Ministry has awarded the first license for a company to provide two-way beeper service. The Eden company, a subsidiary of Nexus, has received the license, the ministry said. Eden also locates cars and does industrial monitoring. The two-way paging device was developed in Israel.

Judy Siegel

Issta to go public on May 9: Issta Lines hopes to raise NIS 8 million when it goes public on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange next week, the Avishai Gal, the company's managing director said. After two years of bureaucratic wrangling, the company, which specializes in trips for students, has been given the go ahead to offer 25 percent of its shares to company employees today and then to the public two days later.

Since 1988, Issta has increased the number of its Israel-based offices from six to 19 - another will open next week - and set up offices in London and Paris. The company's 1995 net profits totaled NIS 2.6m. on revenues of NIS 200m.

Jennifer Friedlin

'Law most advertised profession in Dan region': A survey conducted by The Tel Aviv branch of *The Yellow Pages* indicates that law is the preferred profession, dieticians are the most sought after advisers, and food is the favored indulgence in the Dan region.

After categorizing its listings, *The Yellow Pages* found 3,706 law offices, 111 dieticians and 824 restaurants in the Tel Aviv region. From 1995 to 1996, the number of law offices increased three percent, the number of dieticians rose 25% and the number of restaurants increased by 1%. More than 700,000 copies of the latest version of *The Yellow Pages* will be distributed to businesses and homes throughout the Tel Aviv region.

Jennifer Friedlin

Intel to become more environmentally friendly: Intel Corporation, the US chip maker and a leading manufacturer of personal computer and communications products, said it will invest \$3.7 million in new designs aimed at protecting the environment.

These projects will focus on ways to save water, reduce the amount of pollutants released into the environment, limit the amount of chemical waste, and prevent noise pollution for residents living near the company's Har Hotzvim plant.

Jennifer Friedlin

Kitan nears deal for control of Gibor Sabrina

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TEXTILE manufacturer Kitan, a subsidiary of Clal Industries, is very close to signing an agreement for purchasing control of Gibor Sabrina.

A source close to the companies said Kitan is expected to purchase more than 50 percent of Gibor Sabrina's shares.

In return, Kitan will infuse about \$4.5 million in the company and give a loan to Gibor Sabrina. The loan is intended to help the financially troubled underwear

and socks manufacturer improve its cash flow and renew company activity.

Because of Gibor's financial problems, commercial banks recently decided to suspend lines of credit to the company.

Textile manufacturer Macpell, which is controlled by Nahum and Eliezer Peleg, contacted Gibor Sabrina last week in an attempt to negotiate for the purchase of the company. Gibor Sabrina decided to give preference to Kitan.



Hundreds of flower producers protest opposite the Agricultural Ministry in Tel Aviv yesterday, after only NIS 40 million was allocated to develop the industry. They had requested NIS 80m. (Tamir Mizgale)

ECI Telecom posts rise in net income

COMPANY RESULTS
JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

ECI TELECOM yesterday reported a 17 percent rise in net income in the first quarter to \$24 million from \$20.5m. in the same period last year.

Revenues for the telecommunications company increased 23% to \$131m. from \$107m.

First-quarter earnings per ordinary share went up to \$0.32 from \$0.27 during the corresponding period last year.

The Petah-Tikva based company, the country's sixth leading exporter, provides integrated network solutions and designs.

The company also develops and manufactures digital telecommunications and data transmission systems.

In an effort to promote sales in the Asia Pacific region, the company recently established a joint venture with a Chinese industrial company to manufacture some of ECI's equipment there.

Prudential-YLR alliance to focus on smaller clients

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

US INVESTMENT bank Prudential Securities and YLR Capital Markets, the investment bank of the IDB Group and Israel Corp., are working on 29 transactions and have plans to establish a \$50 million equity fund, the companies announced yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference to announce the newly signed alliance agreement between the two firms, YLR board chairman Oudi Recanati said the agreement covers several areas - including public offerings, private placements, as well as mergers and acquisitions.

Recanati emphasized that the companies plan to work with mid-sized clients, on deals of less than \$100m.

Prudential, which is among the 10 largest investment banks in North America and is a fully-owned subsidiary of Prudential Insurance Co., which is the largest insurance company in the US and among the largest in the world.

Prudential Securities specializes in small firms with a high growth

and medium-sized firms. Last year the bank raised \$35 billion through public and private offerings, mergers and acquisitions.

YLR, which is controlled by the IDB Group and Israel Corp., offers a full range of investment house services.

In Europe, the company is represented by Kleinwort Benson.

Negotiations between Prudential and YLR started approximately three months ago. Paul Scura, managing director and head of Prudential Securities investment banking group, said YLR interviewed seven US investment bankers before selecting Prudential.

According to Scura, the agreement gives Prudential access to about half the companies traded on the stock market through YLR's owners, the IDB Group.

The group is controlled by the Recanati family and Israel Corp., which is controlled by the

Eisenberg group.

"In this way we have captured more than half the capital market," said Scura.

Vincent Pica, president of Prudential Securities, said the first of the 29 transactions Prudential and YLR are jointly working on was closed Sunday, saying the companies reached an agreement in principle for a \$10m. private placement of equity transaction for an internet-related firm.

The other transaction worked on include nine IPO's, one secondary market, three American Depositary Receipts, nine private equity, five mergers and acquisitions and one project finance transaction.

Pica said the companies are also working on establishing a \$50m. equity fund for international investors abroad to invest in Israeli emerging growth companies and are also planning a conference in Tel Aviv, scheduled for the end of the year, to educate local companies on how to go public in the US.

Local venture capital funds have raised \$570b. since 1990

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE 36 local venture capital funds have raised \$569 million since 1990, most of which was raised since 1992, according to a Giza Group survey of investment and venture capital funds here.

According to Giza's May 1995 survey, these funds have invested

\$321m. of the amount raised, representing 56 percent of the total capital raised.

The nine funds with a co-investment agreement with the government-owned Yozma have invest-

ed 46% of the \$209m. raised since 1994.

Yozma invested about 40% of these funds' capital.

The 26 private venture capital funds which invest in technology and non-technology companies have invested about half the \$552m. raised since 1990. The private funds include the Renaissance Fund, Etgar, Israel Growth Fund, and the Dovrat Shrem Funds.

The largest funds among the technology funds are Star, which has \$117m. capital under management; Yozma, which has \$110m.; and Dovrat Shrem, with \$99m.

According to Giza, the venture capital industry in Israel is now more vibrant than ever before.

The firm said there are about 14 funds planning to raise a total of some \$500m., adding that sizable amounts of this capital will be raised by new venture capital and investment funds this year.

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Source: Telephone quotes, May 1994

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Maman worried about protecting Israeli jobs at joint airport with Jordan

HAIM SHAPIRO

GROUND handling services at the proposed joint Israeli-Jordanian airport in the Arava has become a major issue which the Israeli negotiators have so far overlooked, according to Danny Spilman, director of Maman, the country's largest air cargo handler.

Spilman was speaking to

reporters at the inauguration of Ground Handling Services Israel Ltd. (GHI), a joint company set up by Lod-based cargo handling specialist Maman (51 percent) and LAGS (49 percent), a subsidiary of Lufthansa. LAS offers ground services in 47 airports based in 18 countries.

GHI, which began operating at the beginning of the month, expects to handle ground services

for some 3,000 flights of foreign companies flying to Israel, a third of all the activity in this area.

However, Spilman said the new company, which handles all ground services for the Eilat and Uvda airports, could run into difficulty if government negotiators don't ensure that Israeli ground handling crews work at the new airport.

Currently, an international company is carrying out a feasibility study for the new airport, which is to be shared by Israel and Jordan.

Spilman said that although the airport is to be shared, the main portion will probably be in Jordan, while the bulk of the passengers would be coming to Israel.

In 1995, he noted, there were about 60,000 passengers at the Akaba Airport, while Eilat and Uvda together had about 400,000 passengers.

"We could lose over 100 jobs," Spilman said. "This is one of the first issues I will raise to the new transport minister."

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS			
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U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.825	4.750	4.250
French franc (FF 200,000)	1.750	1.750	1.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.500	0.500	0.750
Yen (¥ 10 million year)			

(rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (6.5.96)			
CHECKS AND TRANSFERS	BUY	SELL	REP.
Currency basket	3.6732	3.6715	
U.S. dollar	3.2329	3.2351	3.6443
German mark	2.1205	2.1151	3.2620
French franc	4.9782	4.9569	2.1382
Japanese yen (¥100)	0.0274	0.0276	0.61
Dutch florin	3.0883	3.1324	3.18
Swiss franc	1.8995	1.9285	0.65
S. African rand	2.6049	2.6470	1.98
Swedish krona	0.4728	0.4805	0.46
Norwegian krona	0.4684	0.5014	0.46
Danish krone	0.5468	0.5537	0.54
Finland mark	0.6734	0.6843	0.57
Canadian dollar	2.5798	2.6184	0.68
Australian dollar	0.7350	0.7478	0.68
S. African rand	1.2917	1.0484	1.01
Argentine peso (10)	3.0715	3.0641	2.63
Indian Rupee (100)	1.9701	2.1025	3.11
Jordanian dinar			2.14
Egyptian pound			4.41
ECU	3.9932	4.0476	0.51
Irish punt	5.9482	5.1287	4.58
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6412	2.8822	2.49

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Key Representative Rates
US dollar ... NIS 3.2620 +1.46%
Sterling ... NIS 4.9168 +1.81%
Mark ... NIS 2.1392 +1.65%

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

DI Industrials ... Last Change
DI Transport ... Last Change
DI Commodities ... Last Change

Other stock market indexes

FTSE 100 ... Last Change
Tokyo Nikkei average ... Last Change
Singapore all-share index ... Last Change

Israeli stocks in NY

NYSE (AMEX) Last Change
Ari 1.92
Ariel A 1.02
Ariel B 1.02

(All ratings are closing quotes)
Comstock Trading Ltd. (Data 6:45-9:00)

INFLATION MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

Pound spot ... Last Change
D-mark spot ... Last Change
S-franc spot ... Last Change

Libor rates

3 months ... Last Change
6 months ... Last Change
12 months ... Last Change

Foreign financial data courtesy of

Comstock Trading Ltd.
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34 Ben Yehuda St. Jerusalem.
Tel. 02-241963, 03-5758826
Fax. 02-244876

INFLATION MARKETS

US commodities

Cocoa (May) (ICE) ... Last Change
Sugar No 11 (May) (ICE) ... Last Change
Wheat (May) (CBOT) ... Last Change

London commodities

Cocoa (May) (ICE) ... Last Change
Coffee (May) (ICE) ... Last Change
Brent crude oil (Lamp) ... Last Change

Spot market metals (US)

Gold spot ... Last Change
Silver spot ... Last Change
Copper spot ... Last Change

New York metal futures

Gold (July) ... Last Change
Silver (July) ... Last Change
Platinum (July) ... Last Change

London metal fixes

Gold AM fix ... Last Change
Silver AM fix ... Last Change
Copper AM fix ... Last Change

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading Two-sided trading

Commercial Banks, Mortgage Banks & Finance, Financial Institutions, Insurance, Trade & Services, Property, Building & Agriculture, Oil Exploration, Trade & Services, Property, Building & Agriculture, Oil Exploration, Trade & Services, Property, Building & Agriculture, Oil Exploration

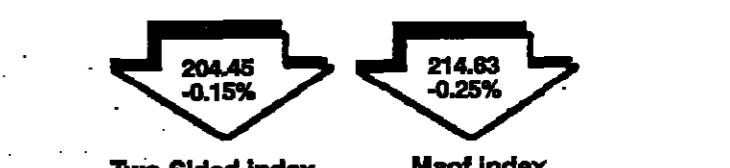
ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

NEW YORK, LONDON, PARIS, FRANKFURT, CURRENCY CROSS-RATES, BOMBERS

Stocks fall on fear of rate hike

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



STOCKS fell for a second day yesterday, amid concern that a weakening shekel will prompt the Bank of Israel to raise interest rates in an effort to curb inflation. The losses were offset by optimism that a weakening currency will mean rising profits for export companies, which earn in dollars and pay expenses in shekels. The Maof Index fell 0.25 percent to 214.63 and the Two-Sided Index fell 0.15% to 204.45.

German stocks up

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - German equities closed trade up yesterday in a modest rebound after Friday's nearly two percent drop, but French stocks closed over a percent down under the influence of a lower Wall Street.

Dow falls, but rebounds from earlier steep losses

WALL STREET REPORT

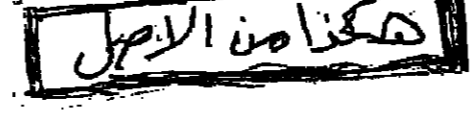
NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks ended mixed yesterday, rebounding from steeper losses as some late bargain hunting offset continued nervousness about rising interest rates and inflationary pressures. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks fell 13.72 points to close at 5,464.31, rebounding from a loss of 53 earlier in the afternoon.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

MARK STERLING YEN SFR FFf
STERLING 2.2682/22
YEN 1.4905/22
SFR 122.71/83

BOMBERS

Jihad and planning a suicide bombing, was extended for 30 days by the military court at the Erez checkpoint yesterday. It went to Turkey to study medicine at Ankara University in 1993. Shortly thereafter he was approached by two Jihad members who asked if he were interested in going to Iran for military training. He agreed, and was given money and a ticket at the Iranian embassy. In Iran, he - along with other Palestinians from the territories - was trained in weapons, demolitions, and resisting interrogation.



Jerusalem heads to finals against Maccabi

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

CRITICIZED throughout the season for his inconsistent offense, Hapoel Jerusalem guard Doron Shefa found a most opportune time to answer his critics: Scoring 17 of his 23 points in the second half to lead Jerusalem to an 84-75 victory over Hapoel Galil Elyon last night, and a spot in the finals against Maccabi Tel Aviv.

The trip to the finals is Jerusalem's first, and Shefa—who has been with the club through good times and bad—deserved to have a place in bringing the club to the historic confrontation with Maccabi which begins next week.

His inconsistent play may have been the target for media barbs in the capital of late, but last night he was unstoppable. Jerusalem sorely needed his offense on a night when Norris Coleman was again off-form. Shefa more than rose to the occasion, hitting three three-pointers in the second half to put an end to Galil Elyon's dreams of extending the series to a fifth game.

Shefa wasn't a one-man gang, however. Billy Thompson again showed why he's been the most valuable player on Jerusalem most of the season, scoring 29 points, 17 in the second half.

In the first half, Galil Elyon looked like they might have the stuff to extend the series. Although Jerusalem burst out of the starting gate with a 5-0 run, Galil came right back to tie it, and when Gil Shefa scored with just over three minutes to play, coach David Blatt's team led 31-26.

However, a Shefa basket kept Jerusalem close and Thompson tied it at 36 from the line before Gior Shelef—outstanding in the first half with 14 points—spun free for a reverse lay-up and was fouled, to put Galil ahead 39-36 at the end of the ragged first half.

As he did in Game 3 in Malha, coach Pini Gershon had Jerusalem immediately play inside at the start of the second half, and the tactic paid immediate dividends. Thompson scored twice inside, but it was Shefa who turned the game around. With 15 minutes left, he hit a jumper, then a three-pointer, and added two foul shots to give Jerusalem a 51-47 bulge.

When Andrew Kennedy—who had 16 points in the second half in a valiant effort to keep his young teammates in the game—brought Galil back to within two moments later, Shefa again hit a bomb. Then it was Thompson's turn to grab a loose ball and take it to the hoop to put Jerusalem in command at 60-53, with just over 10 minutes left.

However, Shefa wasn't finished. He fired in one more three-pointer to make it 67-55, and Galil Elyon seemed to will as the ball swished through the net. Suddenly, Blatt's players lacked the legs to get back on defense, while on offense only Kennedy and Shelef were effective against a variety of aggressive Jerusalem defenses. With just over three minutes left, Gershon started the celebrations, bringing in his bench, since Shefa—with 69 percent shooting—Thompson and Adi Gordon, who had eight assists, had effectively already written Hapoel Jerusalem into the basketball history books.

For Galil Elyon, the defeat marked the end of a nonetheless outstanding season, and Blatt and his club deserve tremendous credit for surprising the pundits both before and during the playoffs.

For Jerusalem, the victory means the match-up everyone had hoped for with Maccabi will indeed take place, with Maccabi holding the home-court advantage and Gershon's club looking to write one more page in their storied season as the team seeks its first league championship.

White, who finished with four for 33, then trapped both Darren Thomas and Steve Watkin leg before and struck again with the third ball of the 49th over when he had Steve Barwick leg before to give Yorkshire a 43-run win.

Leicestershire left-arm spinner Min Patel maintained his liking for Lancashire batsmen to launch Kent's championship season by bowling them to a 64-run victory at Canterbury. Patel took five for 65, including

Rangers shut down Pens' power play

PITTSBURGH (Reuters) - Pat Verbeek and Luc Robitaille each had a goal and two assists as the New York Rangers opened up a 3-0 lead and held on for a 6-3 win Sunday over the Pittsburgh Penguins, tying their Eastern Conference semifinal series at one game apiece.

Mark Messier had his second game in a row with a goal and an assist for the Rangers, who claimed home-ice advantage in the best-of-seven series, which continues today in New York.

The tone was set early as the Rangers scored twice in the opening period, while limiting Pittsburgh to only three shots on five power plays in the first period, including a two-man advantage for 59 seconds.

"Obviously important was the 5-on-3 that we killed off," said Rangers coach Colin Campbell. "If you want to pick a turning point, that was a key turning point."

Messier said: "Our penalty killers shut them down real tight in the 5-on-3. Maybe they tried to make a too perfect play and that gave us time to intercept their passes."

Penguins coach Ed Johnston lamented the lost opportunity. "I think the tone of the game was set pretty early. We have the 5-on-3 and I don't think we had a shot," he said.

"When you get in this type of series, that's what you're looking for—that early lead. And when you're given the opportunity we had, you have to score."

Robitaille, a former Penguin, opened the scoring at 5:10 of the first period. His first shot was stopped, but the puck came back to him at the inside edge of the left faceoff circle and he whipped a shot over goaltender Ken Wregget's left shoulder for his first playoff goal.

"It meant something extra to me to do this here in Pittsburgh," Robitaille said. "They traded me and a bit disrespected me. This game showed the people in Pittsburgh that I can play."

Bill Berg took advantage of a giveaway by Pens defenseman J.J. Daigneault to score with 2:34 left in the opening period. Daigneault put the puck on Berg's stick and the veteran winger beat Wregget low to the stick side for a 2-0 lead.



GOT THE BLUES - Detroit's Kirk Maltby watches the puck bounce into the net past St. Louis goalie Jon Casey.

Alexei Kovalev gave the Rangers a three-goal cushion 85 seconds into the second period when his harmless wristed from the right circle trickled through Wregget.

Red Wings 8, Blues 3
Steve Yzerman scored twice and had three assists to tie a team playoff record for points as the host Red Wings cruised to victory over the St. Louis Blues to take a two games to one lead in their Western Conference semifinal.

Game Three is tomorrow in St. Louis. If the Red Wings win, they can close the series out Friday in St. Louis.

Yzerman scored in the first and third periods and assisted on a pair of goals by Nicklas Lidstrom and one by Darren McCarty.

He tied Norm Ullman's single-game team playoff record with five points. Ullman had a pair of goals and three assists on April 7, 1963, and had three

goals and two helpers exactly one year later.

Yzerman scored 3:40 into the game and set up scores by Lidstrom and McCarty after Vladimir Kostaninoff's goal as Detroit exploded for a 4-0 lead in the first 11:41.

New York 2 3 1 - 6
Pittsburgh 0 1 2 - 3
First Period - 1, New York, Robitaille 1 (Lowe, Verbeek, 5:10, 2, New York, Berg 1 (Churia, Driver), 17:26, Penalties - Lidstrom, NY (roughing), 2:43; Samuelsson, NY (tripping), 6:33; Lidster, NY (roughing), 6:33; Jagr, PI (roughing), 8:33; New York bench, served by Robitaille (too many men), 9:16; Sundstrom, NY, double minor (high-sticking), 10:18; Wilkinson, PI (interference), 14:56; Roche, PI (goalie interference), 19:22.

Second Period - 3, New York, Kovalev 3 (Kunt, Samuelsson), 1:25, 4, Pittsburgh, Lamszus 4 (Zubov, Francis), 8:21 (pp), 5, New York, Messier, 3 (Beukboom, Verbeek), 8:33, 6, New York, Verbeek 3 (Robitaille, Messier), 15:17 (pp). Penalties - Robitaille, NY (interference), 5:44; Turner, PI (cross-checking), 11:38; Pittsburgh bench, served by Dzedzic (too many men), 14:34; Churia, NY (hooking), 19:20.

Third Period - 7, Pittsburgh, Smolinski 2 (Roche, Daigneault), 6:27, 8, Pittsburgh, Jagr 6 (Nedved, Zubov), 14:19, 9, New York, Messier, 3 (Beukboom, Verbeek), 19:20 (pp), Penalties - Lepore, PI (tripping), 3:31; Robitaille, NY (boarding), 12:33; Sandstrom, PI, misconduct, 19:20.

Shots on goal - New York 9-14-9 - 32, Pittsburgh 5-9-14 - 28.
Power-play Opportunities - New York 1 of 5; Pittsburgh 2 of 8.
Goals - New York, Richter 5-3 (28 shots-25 saves), Pittsburgh, Wregget 4-1 (31-26).
A - 17,181 (17,181).

St. Louis	1	1	1	-	3
Detroit	5	0	3	-	8
First Period	3-0	2	0	-	5
Second Period	1-1	0	1	-	2
Third Period	2-0	0	2	-	4
Total	6-1	2	3	-	11

Gough, White rescue Yorkshire

LONDON (Reuters) - Yorkshire's two England test all-rounders grabbed the last seven wickets for only 14 runs to clinch a dramatic win over Glamorgan with only nine balls to spare in their County Championship match yesterday.

Chasing 260 to win from 50 overs, Glamorgan looked well on course when it was 113 without loss, and later at 202 for three. But Gough changed that in the space of three balls.

First, he trapped Glamorgan captain Matthew Maynard for 27 and then Tony Cottee was run out by a direct hit from Richard S Kemp before Gough bowled Robert Croft first ball.

White, who finished with four for 33, then trapped both Darren Thomas and Steve Watkin leg before and struck again with the third ball of the 49th over when he had Steve Barwick leg before to give Yorkshire a 43-run win.

Leicestershire left-arm spinner Min Patel maintained his liking for Lancashire batsmen to launch Kent's championship season by bowling them to a 64-run victory at Canterbury.

Patel took five for 65, including

Behr, Erlich lose in first round of Eisenberg Open

HEATHER CHAIT

ANYONE betting on Israel's tennis players yesterday would probably have lost heavily as Davis Cuppers Noam Behr and Eyal Erlich both lost their first round matches of the \$50,000 Eisenberg Jerusalem Open. Lesser-known Ofer Sela and Amir Hadad are through to the second round, however.

In today's main game, Israel's top player, Eyal Ran faces the second seed Leander Paes from India.

Behr was not his usual self on court, losing 6-4, 7-6(7/3) to Ireland's Owen Casey, a qualifier ranked 320 in the world against Behr's 214.

Although Behr unleashed his formidable cross-court backhands, his game was marked by careless shots and tentative play.

To Casey's credit, he presented a solid, consistent response, returning everything Behr threw at him and won the rallies from the baseline.

Erlich, a wildcard entry, took qualifier Kevin Ullyett from

South Africa, to three sets before losing 6-7(7/9), 6-3, 6-1.

The day's winner was Hadad who relied on his prowess as a doubles player to produce some nifty net play and overhead shots against Miguel Tobon from Colombia. Hadad won 6-2, 7-5 after trailing 4-5 in the second set.

Sela, the only Israeli qualifier, served up 10 aces in his 7-5, 6-3 win over Brazilian Francisco Costa.

In doubles play, Ran and Behr beat Yoni Erlich and Nir Wegreen 1-6, 6-2, 6-3.

In other matches yesterday, Lars Jonsson from Sweden beat Germany's Martin Zumpft 7-5, 4-6, 6-2; Australia's Peter Tramacchi beat Neville Godwin from South Africa 6-4, 6-2 and Mexico's Oscar Ortiz beat Paul Wekesa from Kenya 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

In today's remaining first round matches, top-seeded Chris Wilkinson from England (131) plays Lior Mor and Wegreen will play Pablo Campana from Ecuador. Play begins at 1 p.m.

Schott: Hitler was initially good

BRISTOL, Connecticut (AP) -

Baseball team owner Marge Schott, who has often provoked anger with her comments, once again is praising the start of Adolf Hitler's term as German chancellor.

"Everything you read, when he came in he was good," the Cincinnati Reds owner said in an interview aired by ESPN television network Sunday night.

"They built tremendous highways and got all the factories going. He went nuts, he went berserk. I think his own generals tried to kill him, didn't they?"

"Everybody knows he was good at the beginning but he just went too far."

The 45-minute interview was taped in Schott's office in Cincinnati on Friday.

"He asked me some questions during the interview that I really didn't care for," Schott said when reached at her home Sunday night by The Associated Press.

Schott said the subject of Hitler came up because "he asked about

the swastika in the house." In November 1992, Schott admitted keeping a swastika arm band at home. She said she was given it by a man who worked for her.

On February 2, 1993, baseball's executive council suspended Schott for one year and fined her \$25,000 for bringing "disrepute and embarrassment" to baseball with her repeated use of racial and ethnic slurs.

"There's just no appropriate comment," acting commissioner Bud Selig said Sunday night.

In an interview with *The New York Times* published November 29, 1992, Schott said her family members in Germany suffered during World War II and she was quoted as saying: "Hitler was good in the beginning, but he went too far."

As part of her suspension, Schott was directed to attend and complete multicultural training programs. A week after the suspension, she said on a television show that earlier comments about Hitler weren't antisemitic.

PARIS (Reuters) - Eric Cantona has no desire to leave English champions Manchester United.

"I've signed, and that means I'll stay to be honest and faithful to those who have surrounded me," he says in an interview in yesterday's French sports daily *L'Equipe*. "I can't think of any reason that could make me change my mind."

The Frenchman said he had been hurt by criticism following his infamous Kung-fu attack on a supporter at Crystal Palace in January 1995.

"They were really a lot of critics, especially from France, and those who made them thought I deserved them. I thought it was too much. I'm not naive. I know that now there will be a lot of praise and that, too, will probably be too much."

He said that after he returned from his eight months suspension, he did his best to please those who had kept their trust in him, especially United manager Alex Ferguson.

Cantona wants to stay put

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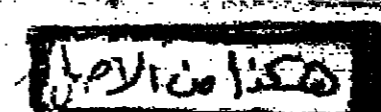
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CRITIC'S CHOICE

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

TIKKUN Hatzot (Midnight Prayer) by Amnon Levi and Rami Damon...

DANCE

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

THE Bat-Dor Dance Company presents Domy Reiter Soffer's Echoes tonight (8:30) at its own theater in Tel Aviv.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

ANYONE searching for that unique French atmosphere can find it tonight at the Tel Aviv Museum (8:30) as the captivating concert series Paris, A Musical Kaleidoscope concludes with a program titled "Couleurs de la Cité Céleste"...



Percussionist Chen Zimbalista joins the Bat-Dor troupe in 'Echoes.'

enchanting Peter and the Wolf. Also tomorrow (3:30 and 5:30).

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem's musical-education department series of lectures concludes today (4:15) when Professor Amnon Shiloah talks about (Between Written and Oral Culture: Arabic Music in Its Own Image).

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ THE STAR MAN - Giuseppe Tornatore's latest picture appears, at first glance, to be a thin reworking of the very same uplifting themes that filled Cinema Paradiso...

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Sesame Street 8:30 Piped Piper of Hamelin 9:30 Dinosaurs in action 10:00 Auto 10:30 Victor and Victoria (1993) - Danish production about trolls who live peacefully until the outbreak of war over the magic ring 11:40 Africa Screams (1949) - Heroic safari saga with Bud Abbott and Lou Costello (78 mins.) 13:00 The World is Round 13:30 Scary Tales 13:45 Kitty Cat and Tommy 14:00 The Fables of King Babar 14:30 Cartoons 15:00 New to the eyes

CHANNEL 1

15:55 Rex 16:20 Garfield 16:50 Zap to Dovele 16:59 A New Evening with Dan Margalit 17:34 Zap Live 18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Appropo - discussion on current affairs 19:00 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS

19:30 Every evening with Marav Michael 20:00 Mabul News 20:50 Mabul Live 20:55 Referendum with Meri Per 22:05 Countdown to Atlanta '96 - preview of the Olympics 22:40 Roughnecks 23:30 News 00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2

10:00 Alice in Wonderland - animated movie 11:30 Happily Ever After - fairy-tale series: Jack and the Beanstalk 12:00 Walt Disney Wet n' Wild - selection of extracts from some of the best Disney cartoons 13:00 Wonder Works 14:00 Open Cards 15:00 Disney Time 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshef 17:30 First Love 18:00 Ruby 19:00 Lingo 19:30 Comedy Store 20:00 News 20:30 Ramat Aviv Gimmel 21:15 First 22:00 Cov Night 22:05 The X Files 00:00 News 00:05 Night-time Rendezvous with Kobi Medan 00:40 All or Nothing at All - two-part mini-series about a man whose friends and neighbors, believing him to have a Midas touch, give him their money to invest. 2:15 Nurses 2:40 On the Edge of the Shelf

JORDAN TV

12:35 Feature film 14:15 Clips of the Unexpected 14:40 Growing Pains 15:00 Captain Planet 15:25 Ins, the Hippo Professor 16:00 Disney Time Show 16:30 18:00 Air 16:30 The Bob Morrison Show 17:00 French pro-

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS28.08 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS320.65 per line, including VAT, per month.

TEL AVIV

JERUSALEM... TEL AVIV MUSEUM... JERUSALEM... TEL AVIV MUSEUM... JERUSALEM... TEL AVIV MUSEUM...

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES... JERUSALEM: Super Pharm... HAIFA: WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dal 04-374253.

CABLE

ITV 3 (33)

17:00 Cartoons 17:30 The Nile Still Flows 18:30 From Day to Day 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 International magazine on the arts 20:00 Mabul News 20:45 Outstanding creations 21:00 Flash Back - joint radio and TV chat show 22:00 Showcases 22:30 Cinema magazine 00:00 Closedown

ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Hey Dad! 16:00 It's not the end of the world 16:30 World Consisting 17:00 Great discoveries 17:30 Time Out 18:00 The Jerusalem of Yehuda Halevi 18:30 On Second Thoughts 19:00 Family Album 19:30 Beginnings 20:00 A New Evening with Russian Ladies 20:30 Welcome to France 21:00 Female Perspective 21:30 Documentary on choreographer Pina Bausch 22:30 Mosses in Jewish Tradition

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (ppt) 9:00 One Life to Live (pt) 9:35 The Young and the Restless (pt) 10:30 Second Time Around 10:55 WKRP in Cincinnati 11:25 Celeste (pt) 12:10 Neighbors (pt) 12:35 Dallas (pt) 13:30 Starting at 13:00 14:05 The A Team 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:45 Supervixens 16:40 Neighbors 17:10 Dallas 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Celeste 20:50 Beverly Hills 90210 21:40 Texas Justice - TV thriller starring Peter Strauss and Heather Lollar. A Texas millionaire in the middle of a divorce is suspected of murdering his wife's daughter. Part 1 23:10 Sapir (ppt) 23:20 Mad About You 23:45 Sisters 00:35 Babylon 5 1:20 Hunter

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 For Their Own Good (1992) - (ppt) 12:10 Meet John Doe (1941) with Gary Cooper and Barbara Stanwyck (121 mins.) 14:10 Seeing Stars - Planet Hollywood 15:00 Rebel High (1987) (ppt) 16:25 Round Trip to Heaven (1992) - action comedy (ppt) 17:55 What's New at the Movies 18:10 Driveway (1995) - suspenseful comedy comes to Earth... With Helen Slater and Faye Dunaway (119 mins.) 20:15 Key Position - action series 21:00 Laser Mission (1989) - Ernest Borgnine is a scientist planning to create a deadly laser. (84 mins.) 22:30 Omega Cop (1990) - In the near future, the hole in the ozone layer causes panic on Earth. (86 mins.) 00:00 Shattered Image (1993) (ppt) 1:35 Fatal Woman (1990) - a newly-wed's wife disappears. (93 mins.)

DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University 12:00 Travel Magazine (ppt) 12:30 Floyd on Italy (ppt) 13:00 Shadows on the Street (ppt) 14:00 Open University 16:00 Travel Magazine (ppt) 16:30 Floyd on Italy (ppt) 17:00 Shadows on the Street (ppt) 18:00 Open University 20:00 The Mind: The Cosmos Within Us 21:00 National Geographic Explorer 22:00 Combat at Sea 23:00 The Mind: The Cosmos Within Us (ppt) 23:50 Open University

STAR PLUS

6:00 Aerobics 6:30 Nanny and the Professor 7:00 Beverly Hills 90210 7:30 Yan Can Copy 8:00 Entertainment Tonight 8:30 Gabrielle 9:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Oprah Winfrey 12:00 Remington Steele 13:00 Yan Can Cook 13:30 ET TV 14:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 14:30 New Adventures of Beany from the Soul Train Station 15:30 Beaman 16:00 Home and Away 16:30 Entertainment Tonight 17:00 M*A*S*H 17:30 The Flying Doctors 18:30 The Extraordinary 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara 21:00 Hard Copy 21:30

CINEMA

7 * Toy Story (English dialogue) 7 * Dracula 7, 9, 30 * THE STAR + 050904 Sabrina 7, 9, 45 * The Sorcerer 7, 15, 9, 45 * Broken Arrow 7:15, 9, 45 * ARIEL * Broken Arrow 9:30 * Blue in the Face 7:15 * Copycat 9:30 * ASHDOO * The Monster 5, 8, 10 * Executive Decision 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 * Sabrina 10 * Toy Story 5, 8 * Get Shorty/Copycat 5, 7:45, 10:15 * G.G. GIL * The Birdcage 6:15, 9:45 * Draquila 5, 8, 10 * ASHKELOH * G.G. GIL Executive Decision 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 * 12 * Monkey*Copycat*Dead Man Walking 7:45, 10:15 * The Birdcage 5, 7:45, 10:15 * RAV CHEN * 711223 Before and After*8475 Aphrodite*Dracula 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Sense and Sensibility 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Before and After*7:30, 9:45 * Toy Story (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 * Mighty Aphrodite 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 5 * TEL AVIV * CINEMATHEQUE 2 * Sprinkz 5, 5772000 * Ulysses* Gaze 5, 9:15 * Underdog 7 * Smoke 8:45 DZENEGOFF Leaving Las Vegas 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 * A Man of No Importance 3:15, 7:45 * Show Girls 1, 5, 10 * Anna 11 a.m. * The Monster 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 * DUNE * The Monster 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 * GAN HARIT * 5272575 71 In Gabriel St. Priscilla 2:30 * Before the Rain 5, 7:30, 9:45 * GAT Sense and Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * GORDON East, Drink, Man, Woman 5:30, 7:45, 10 * HAKOLNOA * 6959341 26 Ibn Gabrol St. Mr. Holland's Opus 4:30, 7, 9:45 * G.G. 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Investigation of sportsmen continues

RAINE MARCUS

NATIONAL Crime Squad Chief Dep.-Cmdr. Yoram Rudman said yesterday that police are currently compiling information against the betting organization's alleged leaders - none of whom are sportsmen - who were arrested last week to expedite indictments against them. The evidence, including that gathered by undercover agent Yitzhak Hagoel, will be transferred to the District Attorney's Office shortly.

The National Crime Squad, in conjunction with tax and VAT authorities, questioned additional soccer and basketball players yesterday about the sports betting racket, in which sportsmen were allegedly involved.

Police and authorities are still trying to determine whether matches were fixed or if sports players merely bet on results. A senior police officer said yesterday that there is still no proof that games were fixed.

Hapoel Eilat basketball player JJ Ewbanks was summoned for questioning yesterday. Some months ago when the case surfaced in the press, prior to the police investigation, there were allegations in the local Hebrew media that Ewbanks had fixed a game while playing for his former club, Maccabi Ramat Gan. He was questioned about those rumors.

As he left the National Crime Squad's Petah Tikva Headquarters, Ewbanks told reporters he was innocent.

National soccer team captain, Nir Klingler of Maccabi Tel Aviv was also questioned yesterday, as were star Maccabi midfielder Itzik Zohar and the club's reserve goalkeeper Alain Mashrafi.

Klingler, who denied betting on games, insisted he was not involved in irregularities. He said he had been asked about "others

who may be involved in betting on or fixing matches."

Zohar was first questioned seven months ago by a private investigation company, Modi'in Ezrachi, about local betting on sports. At the time, his statement that he wasn't involved was given the all-clear by a private polygraph examination. He reminded reporters of this yesterday.

"I didn't have much now to say today," said Zohar after his investigation.

Hapoel Kiryat Ono soccer player Avi Shaul, who was summoned for questioning yesterday morning, was still being interrogated last night, but police sources said he would probably be released on bail.

Additional basketball and soccer players whose names were listed on computer diskettes or diaries found in the possession of the betting operation's alleged leaders will also be questioned over the next few days.

Survivors bitter over Yad Vashem's payment demand for commemoration project

BATSHEVA TSUR

SEVERAL Holocaust survivors on the Yad Vashem mailing list have expressed dismay over a letter suggesting they purchase stones to commemorate their loved ones.

The letter says that an additional memorial cave is being planned, where relatives and friends can place a special stone inscribed with the names. The price of a stone is determined by its size - NIS 1,500 for 15 cm. x 30 cm., NIS 3,000 for 30 cm. x 30 cm., and NIS 4,500 for 30 cm. x 45 cm. The money, described as a "donation," will be used to defray expenses, the letter said.

The "cave" idea originated with the first International Gathering of Holocaust Survivors, held in Jerusalem in 1981. At the time, participants brought with them stones of all sizes and shapes on which were inscribed the names of those they had lost. These were later placed in a memorial cave on the way to the Valley of Lost Communities.

Other survivors then wrote to Yad Vashem requesting stones, and it was decided to make these of uniform size and inscription, Yad Vashem spokeswoman Avital Baer said. When numerous requests arrived, especially from abroad, a second cave was opened.

In response to survivors' complaints about charging for stones in the new cave, Baer said yesterday that all other commemoration enterprises at Yad Vashem are free and that all the names of those who perished are inscribed in the Pages of Testimony in the Hall of Names.

"In May, 1994, the High Court of Justice, which was petitioned (on this issue), ruled that Yad Vashem had the authority to set up memorial enterprises for victims and was specifically empowered to accept donations for special purposes, under conditions agreed upon between Yad Vashem and the donor," she said.

She quoted the court's ruling: "In setting up the memorial cave, Yad Vashem was acting within its statutory authority."

The memorial cave is an "optional extra," Baer said, since all the victims are already memorialized. "It is clear, as the High Court states, that this is not a commercial enterprise, and Yad Vashem has no intention of making a profit," she added.

She said several names could be inscribed on even the smallest stone.

In the past few days, there have been numerous requests for stones, and people have stressed that this is the only "gravestone" they have, and that the enterprise must continue, Baer said.

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WEATHER

Jerusalem 15-22
Tel Aviv 18-25
Haifa 17-25
Beersheba 17-31
Ashdod 18-30
Samartha 18-30
Jerusalem 15-22
Beersheba 17-31
Dead Sea 24-34
Eilat 25-35

Forecast: Fine in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Cloud
American	00	22	clear
Berlin	05	11	clear
Buenos Aires	15	21	clear
Calcutta	25	32	cloudy
Chicago	14	14	cloudy
Copenhagen	04	08	cloudy
Frankfurt	05	10	cloudy
Geneva	05	10	cloudy
Hamburg	05	10	cloudy
Hong Kong	21	27	partly
Jakarta	24	30	clear
London	05	10	clear
Los Angeles	12	18	clear
Moscow	05	10	cloudy
Mumbai	24	30	clear
Nairobi	15	21	clear
Paris	05	10	clear
Rangoon	24	30	clear
Sydney	17	23	clear
Tokyo	11	17	clear
Vienna	05	10	clear
Zurich	05	10	clear

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the eight of spades, ace of hearts, seven of diamonds and jack of clubs.

Stuck in traffic? Help is on the way

HAIM SHAPIRO

DRIVERS who find themselves stuck for hours in urban traffic may be consoled by the fact that at some time in the future a network of electronic signs is to be installed on the highways, telling drivers how to avoid traffic jams.

The project, which the Transportation Ministry says is to be the first of its kind in the world, is to be preceded by a 12-month pilot program with three such signs located on bridges seen by drivers coming into Tel Aviv from the north, before the Gilot and Morasha junctions.

According to the plan, the signs are to tell the drivers which roads they should avoid and which they should take, before they actually become caught up in traffic jams.

The control center for the project is to be located in one of the radio stations in Tel Aviv, with information coming in from observation planes, the police, and drivers using cellular phones, with varying degrees of reliability, according to each source. The police reports are to be viewed as the most reliable, and the driver calls as the least. Roads are to be described as clear, slow, crowded or congested.

Drivers are to be interviewed as part of the study and, at the same time, experts are to examine the effect the signs have on the traffic patterns.

Cameroon diplomat in row over non-payment of rent

EVELYN GORDON

A CAMEROONIAN diplomat is flouting a court order to vacate his house after a year of not paying the rent - and the authorities, charges the house's owner, are taking the diplomat's side.

According to papers filed with Herzliya Magistrate's Court, Suleiman Shaulian rented his Herzliya house to Assomba Etundi, Cameroon's charge d'affaires in Israel, for 12 months beginning on January 1, 1995. The rent was set at \$1,000 a month. However, after the first three months, all of Etundi's checks bounced. In August, Shaulian tried to cancel the contract and evict Etundi, who refused to leave. Shaulian therefore sued.

This past February, the magistrate's court ruled in Shaulian's favor. It ordered Etundi to vacate the house by February 14, and to pay Shaulian NIS41,472, plus linkage and interest, in back rent. However, Etundi once again refused either to leave or to pay.

Shaulian claims that he then asked the police to evict Etundi, but the police refused on the grounds that this would cause a diplomatic incident.

He also charges that this response on the police's part was due to orders from the highest levels of the Foreign Ministry, including Foreign Minister Ehud Barak.

To make matters worse, Shaulian said, Etundi has refused to pay other expenses for which he is obligated under the contract, such as municipal rates (arnona), and he has damaged the house so extensively that repairs will cost tens of thousands of shekels.

In addition, since the contract states that Etundi will pay Shaulian \$80 a day for each day

he stays beyond the term of the contract, Etundi now owes Shaulian over \$10,000 for 1996.

Equally important to Shaulian, his son is getting married, and the couple was counting on having the Herzliya house to live in.

Both the police and the Foreign Ministry deny Shaulian's charges. According to Gadi Doron, police spokesman for the Tel Aviv region, it was only last week that Shaulian first came to the police with the court order and asked them to act.

The file has now been sent on to the head of the police investigations division, he said, where senior officials will decide on the proper way to handle the affair.

Yigal Talmon, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, also said his ministry had not been involved in any way.

However, he said, there is a real problem caused by Etundi's diplomatic immunity.

The police do not have the power to arrest foreign diplomats, he said, so it would be very difficult for them to enforce the court order.

Both Shaulian and his lawyer, Amir Shaulian, however, stuck to their story that the police had been asked to act, but had refused, due to Foreign Ministry pressure. The police, said Amir Shaulian, even threatened to arrest his client if he did not stop harassing Etundi.

Both Shaulians also said it is not clear whether Etundi really does have diplomatic immunity with respect to the house, since it is his private residence rather than part of the embassy.

Etundi, meanwhile, said he was unwilling to comment on the affair until it is settled.

"I have nothing to state on this issue," he said.



Ben Zion and Sima pose for a photographer in Jaffa before getting married last night, as dozens of other couples around the country also did on Lag Ba'omer.

Thousands converge on Mount Meron for Lag Ba'omer festivities

DAVID RUDGE

TIGHT security was in force on Mount Meron yesterday for the Lag Ba'omer celebrations centered around the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai on the Galilee peak.

More than 1,300 police, border police and civil guards were brought to protect the celebrations, maintain law and order, and supervise traffic arrangements. Police said other security forces, including IDF units, are also on standby in case of any serious disturbances, and a police helicopter is also at the site.

Galilee district police spokesman Chief Superintendent Danny Kuffler said the beefed up security presence followed warnings of

possible terror attacks.

"With around 200,000 people expected to visit the site in the course of the holiday especially today, we are taking maximum precautions to safeguard the festivities and try to ensure that the event passes quietly and peacefully," said Kuffler.

Magen David Adom has established two field clinics at the site and has 10 ambulances there on standby. The fire brigade has also stationed trucks at the site.

Kuffler said police had drawn up contin-

gency evacuation plans in case of any serious emergencies. The Egged cooperative has reserved 1,000 buses to take people directly to the site and to help ferry celebrants from parking areas to the mountain peak.

Mount Meron is traditionally the center of Lag Ba'omer festivities, although many other events are taking place throughout the country, as well as thousands of bonfire parties.

The festivities at Mount Meron officially started yesterday afternoon with the traditional march to take an ancient Torah scroll from Abba family home in Safed to the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai on Mount Meron.

Liver transplant success rate now 78%

JUDY SIEGEL

THE success rate of liver transplants here has reached 78 percent - equal to that in the largest transplant centers in the US and Europe. According to the national transplant coordination center, Israel Transplant, 33 of the operations since 1991 have been performed at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem and the rest at the Rabin

Medical Center-Bellinson Campus in Petah Tikva. The Bellinson survival rate during the first year after transplantation averages 96%; none of the patients has died on the operating table. After four years, the survival rate is 78%. The rates are similar at Hadassah. The most

common causes of death among recipients are in rejection and rejection of the organ.

According to Israel Transplant, the average patient is 47 at surgery, but 11 of the recipients have been children.

A total of 150 Israelis with liver transplants are currently alive and well; two-thirds of them underwent the operation abroad.

The success rate here has risen because of changes in surgical tactics. Doctors have been able to take livers from elderly patients because liver function does not usually decline with age. One donor was 77, while several others were over 66.

Surgeons have received Health Ministry permission to remove part of a living relative's liver for transplant into their child; such operations will begin soon.

3 Meshulam followers transferred to different prison

RAINE MARCUS

THE Prisons Service has moved three of Uzi Meshulam's followers, who are awaiting trial on attempted murder charges, to Beersheba's Ohalei Kedat lockup after the group ran riot again yesterday.

Yoav Shabi, Avner Sa'ad and Zohar Hasson, who are awaiting trial on charges of shooting at prison security officer Benny Aviram as he left his Kiryat Gat home last year, were transferred to Ohalei Kedat, as they are being tried in Beersheba District Court, the spokesman said.

Internal Security Ministry officials convened to discuss the possibility of dispersing Meshulam and his followers to different prisons to solve the problems caused by the group. Sources said they decided to move Meshulam's followers to different prisons gradually.

Prisons Service Commissioner

Arye Bibi had said earlier that experts had recommended the group be kept together so that authorities could monitor them more easily.

Meshulam and his followers had been staying in the hospital of Ramle's Ayalon Prison, because of sanitation problems in their prison wing. While in the hospital wing, they started and stopped hunger strikes. The group is currently on a week-long hunger strike.

On Sunday night, Meshulam and his group were transferred back to the regular wing, where they began to run riot, said the Prisons Service spokesman. They complained that wheelchairs and beds had been removed and demanded to be put into solitary confinement. Prisons authorities complied with their wishes and the group is again in solitary.

Dizengoff bomber's alleged driver appeals remand

SAID Suleimani, who is charged with bringing the Dizengoff suicide bomber to Tel Aviv, appealed to the Supreme Court yesterday against a lower court order to remand him until trial. The appeal argued that while Suleimani was negligent in not investigating his passenger's motives more carefully, negligence is not grounds for conviction on a charge of abetting murder - the charge which is the basis for the remand. The state, in contrast, is arguing that Suleimani had plenty of hints as to the bomber's purpose, but chose to ignore them.

Evelyn Gordon

Quality Government Award winners named

THE Movement for Quality Government in Israel announced yesterday the recipients of its annual Quality Government Award. The seven winners are retired Tel Aviv District Court president Elihu Vinograd, former police comptroller Avraham Adan, Hebrew University law professor Mordechai Kremetzky, attorney Amira Adar of the Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office, head of the military police Brig.-Gen. Nir Am Goldbloom, Meretz MK Avraham Poraz and journalist Moshe Negbi.

Evelyn Gordon

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